NEWS / A9

US Embassy in Manila vows to prevent leaks

WORLD / A22

WikiLeaks unleashes flood of damaging US diplomatic cables

NEWS / A2

Tax raps vs ex-singer revived

LATE BREAKER: A lone bettor from Luzon last night won the ₱741-million Grand Lotto jackpot, the PCSO said. The winning combination: 11-16-31-37-42-47.

UN condemns killing of aid worker in South

THE UNITED NATIONS yesterday condemned the killing of a Filipino aid worker in Mindanao, but said the attack would not affect its food distribution efforts there.

The worker was helping the UN World Food Programme (WFP) deliver rations on Friday when a gunman attacked the agency's truck outside Shariff City on

UN CONDEMNS | A6

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Tuesday, November 30, 2010 ★★ 8 sections / Vol. 25 / No. 355 P18

'12 Days of Christmas' items now cost ₱4.4M

PITTSBURGH—In the unlikely event that your Christmas list this year includes every item mentioned in "The Twelve Days of Christmas," be prepared to pay nearly

12 DAYS | A6

S. Korea vows retaliation

VICTIM OF CONTRACTUALIZATION If he were alive today, Andres Bonifacio would have been also a victim of low wages and contractualization, militants said in a protest rally yesterday at Manila's Liwasang Bonifacio.

BONIFACIO/A10

Now is time to act, not talk–Seoul

MALLIPO BEACH, South Korea—South Korean President Lee Myung-bak on Monday vowed retaliation against any further provocation by the North after it attacked an island last week as anger grew at the government's weak response.

Lee made his first address to the nation since Tuesday's attack as US and South Korean warships took part in military maneuvers, prompting concern in regional power China and threats of all-out war from North Korea.

He also visited US forces in Korea to thank them for the show of force.

"North Korea will pay the price in the event of further provocation," Lee said.

"Attacking civilians militarily is an inhumane crime that is strictly forbidden in a time of war... Now is the time to show actions, not a hundred words," he added.

Hours after Lee's nationally televised speech, South Korea's military announced it would conduct new drills—including live-fire exercises—on Yeonpyeong Island on Tuesday morning, and issued a warning over loudspeakers for residents to take shelter in underground bunkers by 9:30 a.m.

Artillery rounds will be fired into the waters southwest of Yeonpyeong, not toward North Korea, an official at the Joint Chiefs of Staff said. He spoke on condition of anonymity, citing department policy.

Similar live drills by South Korean troops one week earlier triggered the deadly bombardment of artillery by North Korea that decimated parts of Yeonpyeong, which lies just 11 kilometers from North Korean shores. Two Marines and

SOUTH KOREA | A7

13 names added on heroes wall

By Ma. Cores P. Dapo

HUMAN rights lawyers, a pastor, teachers and organizers of students, the youth, peasants and communities—13 men in all, two of them, brothers—will be honored today and their names engraved on the Wall of Remembrance at the Bantayog ng Mga Bayani (Monument of Heroes) in Quezon City.

The way they lived and died varied—some were arbitrarily killed or disappeared, while others died of natural causes.

This year's honorees bring to 193 the names etched on the

NAMES | A4

Supremo's prose reveals brave patriot

By Bryan C. Paraiso
Contributor

RETHINKING the story of an 18th century Byronic hero, Andres Bonifacio, the Katipunan's Supremo during the plebeian-led 1896 Philippine Revolution, remains a prominent yet elusive personality in the annals of the nation's history.

Stories of the orphaned boy single-handedly supporting his siblings by selling fans and walking sticks, a theatrical performer and amateur poet, to a highly feisty bodyguard, skilled enough to manage foreign trading firms have romanticized our image of Bonifacio and his life.

SUPREMO'S A5

Why celebrate Bonifacio Day?

By Mona Lisa H. Quizon
Contributor

TODAY, we celebrate the 147th birth anniversary of one of the great heroes of our country—Andres Bonifacio.

To many of us, this event is much awaited not because we are commemorating the greatness of our hero, but

WHY CELEBRATE | A5

Studies find Philippines a disaster waiting to happen

By Winston A. Marbella
Contributor

AS CLOSE to 200 countries began yesterday a two-week meeting in Cancun, Mexico, to try to forge an agreement to curb climate change, several international agencies warned that the Philippines remained a disaster waiting to happen—with Metro Manila possibly going under water after just a heavy downpour.

SPECIAL REPORT

As in earlier meetings in Copenhagen, Denmark, and Bali, Indonesia, a legally binding international agreement is not expected in Cancun to put a cap on carbon emissions scientists believe to be causing global warming and worsening natural disasters. But at least a preliminary roadmap is expected to be drawn up to replace the aging Kyoto agreement expiring in 2012.

An 15,000 government delegates, environmentalists, business leaders and journalists gathered in the Mexican resort, the Philippine government appeared to be starving heaven and earth to avert more catastrophes from impending natural disasters in a desperate race against time in a dangerously

STUDIES | A6

TELLING THE FILIPINO STORY TO THE WORLD

Editors' Note: For 25 days, we will be telling stories about the Inquirer to mark the paper's 25th anniversary on Dec. 9, 2010. Some are little-inside stories but impacting on how we cover unfolding events; some are mark-the-day stories that become tell-of-the-times types; others are turning-point stories that have changed the landscape of history; still others, big or small, raise the heart and never let go.

But whatever, the Inquirer will tell you the story.

Both sides now: Senate's 'Lazarus,' 'Demi Moore'

INQUIRER was a subject after this photo of a younger Miriam Defensor-Santiago came out.

By Cynthia D. Balana

I HAVE covered two of the most volatile political giants of our time and seen their ugly too human side.

After a falling out with President Cory Aquino, her defense chief, Juan Ponce Enrile (JPE), joined the senatorial race and won a seat. He was the lone opposition senator.

The Aquino administration had accused Enrile of involvement in the so-called "God Save the Queen" plot to unseat Cory Aquino but had not been able to pin him down. Enrile allegedly hatched the plot with the Reform the Armed Forces Movement (RAM) led by then Col. Gregorio Honasan.

These were the false horizon who had staged a mutiny against dictator Ferdinand Marcos in 1986, which led to a peaceful revolution that installed Cory as president.

Two years later, the senator was linked to a series of coup d'etats by rightist rebels that nearly toppled the Aquino administration.

The government filed charges of rebellion complex against Enrile that sparked debates among legal luminaries as to whether such a crime exists in the books.

Sometime in February 1990, I

BOTH SIDES | A4

WEATHER FORECAST

Second FRONTPAGE

6/27 PCSO

4PM	1	1
9PM	4	6
4PM	21	15

SUERTRES 2PM 2 5 4 / 5PM 3 1 2 / 9PM 3 0 2

6/25 PCSO

8	2	0	7			

MEGALOTTO 6/45

2	16	31	33	35	43

P5,184,884.60

6/31 GRAND LOTTO

11	16	31	37	42	47

P741,176,123.20

LOTTO 3D/2D Tues-Sat LOTTO, result in 6/42, P1.5M winners

Tax raps vs ex-singer revived

By Marlon Ramos

CLAIRE DELA FUENTE may be singing her swansong hit "Sayang" more than usual these days.

After clearing her of 43 tax evasion charges, the Department of Justice (DOJ) has ordered the indictment of the singer-actress-host-superstar for nonpayment of P349 million in taxes from 1997 to 2004.

In a resolution, Justice Secretary Leila de Lima reversed a May 20 resolution issued by then Justice Secretary Alberto Agra absolving Dela Fuente of manslaughter.

Known as the "Korea Corporate of the Philippines," Dela Fuente and her late husband, Menino de Guzman, owned the 200-foot Philippine Gamefishing Liner Corp. (PGLC), which had failed to pay its appropriate taxes, the DOJ said.

In her counter-affidavit, Dela Fuente had claimed that she was no longer concerned with the affairs Manila-based her company when the criminal offenses were allegedly committed.

De Lima said documentary evidence showed otherwise. The charges were based on the late Sen. Siytil measure since 1998 and "(appeared) responsible for the violation."

The secretary said Dela Fuente failed to prove that she had "ceased to be the treasurer of PGLC... during the period material and relevant to the commission of the offense."

While Dela Fuente claimed that she and her late husband had sold their shares to a certain Rolando de Guzman in 1997, De Lima said that "ground information sheet" that PGLC submitted in 2000 showed that the singer still owned 20 percent of the firm.

De Lima also noted that Jo Gamboa "does not appear to be a shareholder of PGLC."

"We cannot also close our eyes to the random deeds of sale where Dela Fuente signed as president of PGLC and in her affidavit she said that she was the president of PGLC," De Lima said.

The singer also signed as attested financial statement showing that she was the loss company's chief executive officer, she added.

"By reason of her position in PGLC and active participation in running the affairs of the corporation, as a matter fringe benefits of PGLC's (officers)," the justice secretary noted.

"This development is but another affirmative step that we in the DOJ have taken to closely connect to the public our earnest determination to intensify prosecution of tax evasion cases," De Lima said in a statement.

She added: "(There) are consequences to the government's effort to improve revenue collection."

DELA FUENTE

9 OFWs hurt in bus mishap still in hospital

SOME FILIPINO workers who suffered serious injuries in a bus crash collision in the Mie Prefecture in Japan on Sunday remain confined in the hospital, while 11 others have been discharged, the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) reported on Monday.

Six other Filipinos were killed after their bus hit a truck at an intersection at about 7:40 a.m. in Kuwayama City, the Philippine Consulate General in Osaka said.

The Filipinos, including nine trainees and a Japanese assistant, were on their way to work at the electronic plant Sharp's Kameyama facility when the accident occurred, reports gathered by the DFA showed.

The bus driver, a Japanese citizen, was among those injured.

Kameyama police arrested the truck driver, Takao Morisada, 58, when he was released to stop of the overturned.

The Overseas Workers Welfare Administration identified the fatalities as Marina Bangi Pabo, 50, Arnulfo Pabo Dagano, 38, Sandy Rayme Grand, 30, Alnie Dela Alfafo, 33, Sunshine Rural, de Cargallo, 24, and Celestino Salongsa Pedro, 41, 28.

Quoting the president of Shop Kamakura, the DFA said adults was a Japanese citizen, while the rest were classified as "other" (of Japanese descent) or holders of long-term Japanese resident visa. DFAp

With Korea tension up, OFWs in Taiwan gain from overtime

By Philip C. Tubeza

AS TENSIONS in the Korean Peninsula continues, Filipino factory workers in Taiwan are getting paid more for overtime work, a recruitment industry leader said on Monday.

Jackson Hsu, president of Filipino Manpower Agencies Association of Taiwan (FIMAT), said factory owners in Taiwan told him that giant South Korean electronic manufacturers had raised the production of their plants.

"The escalating tension between South and North Korea has prompted electronic products manufacturers Samsung and LG to enhance work in Korea and transfer orders to Taiwan where they have their own recently plants for LCD panels and cellphones," Gan said in a statement.

"This new development augurs well for our OFWs in that island-state," he added.

Some 80,000 Filipino workers in Taiwan work mostly in electronic assembly factories of giant electronic firms like Acer and TPE Building, which supply parts for Apple Inc. They receive monthly wages of up to P50,000, Gan said.

Due to the rents in Korea, investors in Taiwan were working overtime to supply electronic products to China, Hong Kong, the United States and countries in Europe, he added.

Gan acted as translator in Taiwanese reports by 23 Koreans to US$24.19 billion in October as strong robot for gadgets, including iPhones, Black and LCD panels, rose ahead of the Christmas holidays.

OFW rights advocate Bianca Ople called on the Department of Foreign Affairs and the Philippine Embassy in Seoul to make full use of social media, through Facebook, Twitter and other social networking sites, to send updates, advisories and reminders to Filipinos in South Korea.

She noted that a good number of Filipinos in South Korea were on Facebook or have active e-mail accounts.

Ople heads the Blas F. Ople Policy Center, a nonprofit organization engaged in lobbying for stronger overseas Filipino workers.

The center said the very drills in the Yellow Sea would continue until Dec. 1 and tension would likely remain high.

"The important thing is to let diplomacy take its course," said Ople, a former labor undersecretary.

She said her group also foresaw that language still be a big problem for Filipinos who have only been recently working in South Korea in any emergency crisis.

"In an emergency situation, the priority of the Korean government shall always be to help nationals. Important details may get lost in translation," Ople said.

"The six-man rapid response team sent by our government to assist workers in South Korea should have a network member—someone who understands new media tools and is adept at using social networking sites to post responsible, helpful content," she added.

PCSO to decide on lotto prize cap

EVEN IF the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) is now under Malacañang, the agency will be the one to decide on whether it would put a cap on the lotto jackpot.

President Aquino's spokesperson, Edwin Lacierda, said it was not the Office of the President (OP) but the PCSO board which would act on the proposal to cap a supercube jackpot as a "policy decision."

"So it will be up to the PCSO board to do extensive relookers or change the rules on the jackpot ceiling," Lacierda told reporters.

The official shrugged off a statement of retired Archbishop Oscar Cruz that the circular of the PCSO from the Department of Health (DOH) to the OP made the government then the "biggest gambler."

Christine O. Avendaño

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Both sides now: Senate's 'Lazarus,' 'Demi Moore'

From page A1

stunned upon JPE at the hallway of the old Senate building on the fourth floor of the National Museum in Manila. He smiled at me, then proceeded to the office of Senate President Jovito Salonga. By that time, news about his impending arrest was already circulating in the media.

At the Senate session, a grim-faced JPE delivered a scathing speech against the Aquino administration, which had changed from with what he believed was a nonexistent crime to fabricate complicated web murder and other crimes.

It seems that the National Bureau of Investigation led by then Director Alfredo Lim was in the session hall ready to enforce a warrant for his arrest. JPE questioned not just the propriety but also the constitutionality of such an arrest order inside the Senate session.

News blackout

Hell broke loose as reporters and cameramen assembled for a brief view of Enrile as the NBI team closed in on the cornered senator, who was accompanied by then Sen. Joseph Estrada. Sa kinga said it was a dark day for democracy and appealed for unity.

I followed the arresting team to the NBI headquarters where JPE was to spend the night, but I was not able to get in. When I returned the next day, the reinforced already been moved to Camp Crame Kamagong in Quezon City, the headquarters of the Philippine National Police.

In Camp Kamagong, media people spent an entire day trying to get in, but we were not allowed inside.

The following day, Mala orbing imposed a news blackout on the Enrile case. Only his family and relatives were allowed to see him. But I vowed not to go home empty-handed. I tried to reach JPE's media relations officer, who was with the senator.

"Don't show your face in the office," he told me on the phone. "Sabi ni Mainong (Lim), LPG (Lim) ako ang mag-brief sa inyo. Jojo, kasi ang bobo (Tell them you're a relative, we'll handle the rest)."

My hunch shook as I nervously dressed up JPE and told ID to the guards. (I was then taking up masters in international studies at the University of the Philippines.)

Just following orders

Standing JPE, dressed in a white shirt and pajama pants, greeted me with a smile and a firm handshake. "Kumusta ang pulis ha? Lagot ka (Do you're a relative, better watch out)," the other guests told me, with a laugh.

"JPE's media officer and the guards had called to verify if I was really a relative and that I'm the reliable one," he said.

The senator-detainee had a jail by prison standards, but for someone used to living in an upscale gated community, it was far from comfortable. JPE said he struggled to sleep on what is called a bed. (Like a single bed in a hotel-class room.)

There he spoke about his cardiac ordeal. He said blackmailing was wrong in imposing a news blackout, adding that as a lawyer, he knew there was no such thing as a constitutional crime of blackmail-slash-extortion. He thought that the one who filed the charge, then Justice Secretary Franklin Drilon, was just acting on orders of his superiors.

"Wanted to re-lead a Frank (I was godfather to his son). drug," he said.

JPE said he was irritated by articles from Reuters news agency which he said always put the words "alleged" after his name in the story. The correct view was cut short with the arrival of his only daughter, Katrina, who came with her two children. JPE's only son, Jack, had visited him earlier.

The session moved many, and as he hugged his grandchildren.

Closer to God

As I went back to the Supreme office, then managing editor Roy Aseara told the desk that I was able to get JPE and that it would be on Page 1. We beat the competition since it was the first story of JPE in detention.

When he was finally released, Enrile held a press conference at the Senate. When it ended, he walked over to me.

He said his detention made him a lawyer, poorer and closer to God, and that his quiet for days in the camp reading books about unconstitutional opposition leader Benigno S. Aquino Jr., Cory's husband. He said he was the "Lazarus of Philippine politics."

One hated-clear-image the senator of a story ("seems that of us landed on Page 1.

Enrile said he heard that Malacañang was very angry at my Camp Kamagong visit and that an investigation had been conducted on how I was able to sneak in.

Me looked as each other, then burst into laughter at this "little secret."

Days later, Enrile wrote a new letter, thanking me for what he considered as a "professional" gesture his stay in Camp Kamagong.

JPE later won the case in the Supreme Court, which dismissed the charges and ruled that rebellion cannot be complexed with other crimes.

The lady fights graft

Long before she became a senator, Miriam Defensor-Santiago swam against the tide. Raising her voice as commissioner of the Presidential Commission on Good Government (PCGG), now simply G.

"Running into ongoing frauds. (They looked mad at her," was how Tolentino of PCGG employees whom her then Miriam on her first day at the bureau.

Miriam came to the PCGG in January 1988 backed by a short, but impressive list of personally handpicked men and women.

Some were former NAIA boys of the 1986 Edsa Revolution, like Col. Benjamin Abadia, Navy Cmdr. Ruben Domingo, Maj. Wilfredo Palubas and Maj. Noe Wong.

Twice arrested at how Cha-Ca-Ca" woman with a four-penny could ruin the IRR world upside down in her anti-corruption campaign, Miriam instantly drew enemies as well as friends.

President Cory called Miriam "the hardest-spot thing-ever-minister-ever" and three passed ways a few years later for many reasons. As a young and idealistic expatriot, I found myself practically breathing and living Miriam.

Like another IRR-employee, I rejected her work as early as 8 a.m. The chief Senator was in her office at 7 a.m. I would leave only after Miriam had left. The glass door and windows of the press room, which was adjacent to the senator's office, made it easier for me to see her coming in and going out.

Covering her mentor you had to be on your toes 24/7. Once, I followed a hunting Miriam, who had tools-ended an expert team on non-employee activities, including spool. Miriam pulled the employee's chair, causing the employee to fall off, before she made a microphone exit.

Rearranging furniture

A different story however, reached the media persons who had arrived late for the press briefing. They asked Miriam if it was true she hurled a chair as an employee.

Emphatic, pointed: "The answer is emphatic," she said, "is that I was rearranging furniture. She was impudent, and in my relational world I may have rearranged the office furniture."

The newsmen roared with laughter. Typically bluntly, the employee-bashmishing Santiago many times to other employees, telling them not to follow their boss.

It was a Page 1 story, but many of my reporter colleagues gave it a miss because they were not there when it happened.

A flurry of Page 1 articles and exciting photos about Miriam's feats in the Bill probably earned me a niche in her heart. In her book, "Getting Edge: The Political Fisherm in the Philippines," Miriam mentioned my name in one of those among a positive whom help she sought in reversing the release of not regime in the Bureau.

Colorful language

In private, Miriam was the opposite of what people saw on TV. She was sweet and gentle, kind and compassionate, and above-all, playful and witty. She enriched my vocabulary with her colorful language and her fondness for wordplay.

Who can forget the dripping phrase "a Pompeo facial con gonorrhea" after an ugly debate on "Crossfire"? Or "shopping-off-overage IRR employees from prisons and feeding them to the sharks in Manila Bay. But the sharks will reject them out of professional courtesy."

She once described herself as the "Demi Moore of Philippine Politics," referring to the actress in the Hollywood flick "Ghost," a big hit at that time. She won the Ramon Magsaysay Award for public service, Asia's equivalent of the Nobel Prize, while at the IRR. And she never forbade Manila media and other IRR's powers for being poor of what phase in her professional life.

Miriam was always ready to give in to the "whims" of myself, who admitted that news paper could be sold in town only after Miriam's name on the front page, whether it was a photo of her at target shooting practice or playing basketball.

I lost track of Miriam after I was transferred to the business. By then, she had become a pointed acronym of agrarian reform. But her nomination was repeatedly bypassed by the Commission on Appointments. She threatened to disappear in the wilderness, but not without exposing the "dirt" in government. "I will take into the dark like batman."

Unlike the Thomas, Miriam was unmistakable.

One day I found myself in her house in UP Village. My-oh-my medical show, Pedro-in-Dos, cried, wanted me to do a story on her again.

Burning sensation

Miriam never disappointed a journalist's hunt for a good story, as I began my Quezon City where a PDI photographer took her pictures. It was a first in Senator's history: a CJ and A-story and in the centerfold, a huge picture of Miriam, in a one-piece bathing suit, seated by the poolside, hugging her much talked about "shapely legs."

The next day, an ecstatic Pursuad told me that the first issue had to reprint more copies of that issue. Newspaper dealers are presidential campaign kicked off in 1992, I was set Luna Medical Center in Quezon City and saw her for the first time in extreme pain. Her husband Atty Mike had undergone surgery.

Miriam struggled to smile upon seeing me. She could not move. Her face was black and blue and bore stitches. I called the newsroom to tell them about Miriam's physical state. Instead, I relayed her husband's request: not to write about her in such a state as this could dishearten her campaign.

I resented being a journalist that day, and simply acted as a friend. Many of the staff were in their moments of suffering, answered more to me than the desire to have another scoop. The news desk respected my decision.

After Miriam was discharged from the hospital, she sent me a beautiful letter, thanking me for "standing by me at the time when I was down and out."

Where no longer see Miriam in person, but I have never stopped to watch her on extremely painful. I hope she continues her public appearances by June 30 or so. If you want an exclusive interview after that time, just tell me or Jun," she wrote.

ACEBEDO Al MENDOZA BUENO CHUA FERNANDEZ GALACE LANZONA LEANO H. SISON Jo MENDOZA HIRAMURO T. SISON TRIÑEZ

13 names added on Wall of Remembrance

From page B1

black granite Wall of Remembrance near the 41-foot bronze monument by renowned sculptor Eduardo Castrillo that depicts a defiant mother holding a fallen son.

The monument, the wall and other structures of the Bantayog complex are dedicated to "the nation's modern-day martyrs and heroes who fought against all odds to help regain freedom, peace, justice, truth and democracy in the country."

Close examination

The Bantayog recognition is conferred only after close examination of a person's life and manner of death.

The 13 are Jun Lorenzo B. Acebedo (1954-1975), Daniel T. Buenio (1934-1987), William T. Chua (1955-2009), Jesus E Fernandez (1953-2007), Arthur E. Galace (1960-1991), Eduardo E. Lanzona (1946-1975), Isidro F. Lanzo (1951-1986), Ruben Alfredo (1949-1972) and Armando L. Mendoza (1949-1975), Alex A. Meybonon (1951-1986), Modesto C. Ruiz (1947-1977), Ernesto C. Sison (1950-1986) and Ruben T. Triñeo (1958-1985).

Honor student

Acebedo was a student organizer. He was a scholar, former student regent in mathematics at the Pamantasan ng Lungsod ng Maynila.

A student leader and activist, Acebedo was framed-up by the military during the martial law years. He was arrested, heavily tortured and detained for eight months.

He did not return to school after he was released and persisted in being considered. He was captured in a military raid.

Witnesses said Acebedo and his comrades were tortured and ordered to dig their graves. His remains have not been recovered.

Buenio, a human rights lawyer, graduated from San Beda College. He defended political prisoners and the tribal Tagbanua farmers.

Based in Bacas Norte, Buenio documented military operations and atrocities in the North and organized a human rights organization there.

He took in village people and sent poor children to school. Buenio was assassinated in 1987.

Satirical pieces

Chua, a graduate of Xavier School, De La Salle University and the University of the Philippines, was not only a human rights lawyer in his active years but also penned scathing and satirical pieces during the martial law years. He gave his services to striking labor unions and civil society groups.

Gutierrez and Ivong, Chua was a well-liked person who brought much laughter even in times of danger and while detained in prison. Sadly, he would help expose graft and corruption in government.

Chua died of natural causes in 2004 and received several posthumous citations from his alma mater and the Chinese-Filipino community.

Youth leader

Fernandez was a youth leader who helped organize massive protest rallies. Working in the underground for several years, he was known for his planning and organizing skills and his work for the poor, justice and peace. He died of natural causes.

Galace was a human rights lawyer who represented fellow human rights advocates in northern Luzon. He defended political detainees and also wrote a column in a provincial paper.

He took up the case of history massacred by soldiers in Sitio Kapihan. He died of diabetes in 1995.

Economics teacher

Lanzona was an economics teacher. He attended Ateneo University. Although he came from a wealthy family in Davao, Lanzona became passionately involved in the farmers' cluster for land reform.

He helped organize peasants in Ateneo de Davao as well as bank employees. He joined the underground and became a feared man. He was arrested, tortured and executed in 1975.

Lanzo was a pastor for the Foursquare Church in San Andres, Bonifacio, at the time of his death. A pall-watcher during the 1986 snap presidential election, he was shot and killed while driving his jeepney. His body was stuffed inside a sack and found buried in a shallow grave.

The judge who convicted the murderers was all praises for Lanzo's dedication to duty and commitment to her among the frustrating forces.

Desaparecidos

Brothers Alfredo and Antonio de Mendoza are considered "desaparecidos" (disappeared). Their names are inscribed on the Plaza of Courage Monument in Bacolod. (Dante) grounds for the missing.

Alfredo was a church worker and organizer while Antonio was a student and peasant organizer.

Arrested in 1972, Alfredo was detained and later disappeared. Armando was arrested and detained in 1976. His captors said he escaped but his family received reports about him being rearrested and killed. The bodies of Alfredo and Armando have not been found.

Silvestrone was a human rights lawyer active in his home province of Catanduanes. He hosted a radio program and rallied listeners to demand for relation. He was arrested, tortured and executed in 1975.

Enrile was a pastor for the Foursquare Church in San Andres, Bonifacio, at the time of his death. A pall-watcher during the 1986 snap presidential election, he was shot and killed while driving his jeepney. His body was stuffed inside a sack and found buried in a shallow grave.

The judge who convicted the murderers was all praises for Lanzo's dedication to duty and commitment to her among the frustrating forces.

Former seminarian

Timothy Bantay was a former seminarian and a school teacher. He taught in Angeles City and later held a variety of jobs.

Arrested in 1977 when President Ferdinand Marcos was president the writ of habeas corpus. Sison was detained, tortured and charged with subversion.

The torture he suffered led to physical disability and severe silly kidney failure.

Thalino was a community organizer, born in Mindoro Oriental. Thalino the activist moved around to avoid arrest and had to work in Cebu where he became involved in peasant rallies.

Although a behind-the-scenes person, Thalino became a marked man. He was abducted on the same day that Fr. Rudy Romanos was seized. Both

Honors

Honors will be conferred on these 13 individuals starting at 2:30 p.m. today at the Bantayog Memorial Center, located at the intersection of Edsa and Quezon Avenue. The 13 names will be added to the Bantayog's 156-name panel, bringing the total to 169.

Modesto Sison was a high school teacher in Davao Oriental and later, a peasant organizer, as a member of the Federation of Free Farmers and in the like movement, he went deep into the peasant movement. He disappeared in 1977 and has never been found.

Timothy Bantay was a former seminarian and a school teacher. He taught in Angeles City and later held a variety of jobs.

Arrested in 1977 when President Ferdinand Marcos was president the writ of habeas corpus. Sison was detained, tortured and charged with subversion.

The torture he suffered led to physical disability and severe silly kidney failure.

Thalino was a community organizer, born in Mindoro Oriental. Thalino the activist moved around to avoid arrest and had to work in Cebu where he became involved in peasant rallies.

Although a behind-the-scenes person, Thalino became a marked man. He was abducted on the same day that Fr. Rudy Romanos was seized. Both of them remain missing to this day.

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WEST COAST

UN condemns slay

From page A1

Mindanao island, where many armed groups including Islamic militants operate.

"The IKFF strongly deplores this act of wanton violence that has led to the tragic and senseless loss of life of an individual who was assisting in the delivery of humanitarian assistance," the agency said in statement issued by country representative Stephen Anderson.

The IKFF said the man, identified by police as Sadam Ismail, 35, was assassinated locally and not a full-time staff member of the agency.

The IKFF's contracted truck was off-loading rice and cleaning beans for its food-for-work distribution at Barangay Mind, Matanog, Datu Odin Sinsuat, Monday when the driver's motorcycle was hit, according to the UN food agency.

"The IKFF is partnership with the Department of Social Welfare and Development, has been providing food assistance to vulnerable populations displaced by the conflict in Mindanao since 2008, with relatively minimal security incidents compared to the scale of operations," the UN agency said.

150,000 beneficiaries

"The organization normally distributes approximately 3,000 tons of food a month, or an average of 1000 truck deliveries per month, mainly for livelihood programs targeted to food-insecure populations who were displaced by the upsurge in conflict in 2008/2009 and have now largely returned to their places of origin."

The agency said it was aware of the risks involved in delivering food to Mindanao, where it was helping some 250,000 beneficiaries, but that its operations would not change because of last week's killing.

"As of press time, based on the evidence on the ground, the IKFF is very much with the government and the military as ensure safety of its personnel.

The killing highlights the dangers humanitarian workers face in Mindanao, where a long running Moro separatist rebellion is worsened by a proliferation of unlicensed firearms and clan fighting over political turf.

Ambruion earlier told Agence France-Presse that it was too early to blame any group for the attack, after other press reports pointed to the separatist Bangsamoro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF).

The 12,000-strong MILF has been waging a decades long rebellion for the establishment of an independent Islamic state in the southern third of the mostly Catholic country.

In December 2008, another Filipino aid worker was killed when unidentified gunmen attacked a WFP convoy in Maguindanao province. *With reports from AFP and Rachel U. Omol, Inquirer Mindanao*

'12 Days of Christmas'

From page A1

$100,000 (P4.4 million).

Trying to buy the 364 items in question all the songs's versions — from 12 drummers drumming to a partridge in a pear tree — would cost nearly $96,833, an increase of 10.8 percent over last year, according to the annual Christmas Price Index compiled by PNC Wealth Management.

So you might want to try to be one of everything. That would cost only $23,409, or 9.2 percent over what it did last year.

The 27th annual holiday index has historically mirrored the US Consumer Price Index, but not this year. The PNC Christmas Price Index grew 9.2 percent from last year, compared with just a 1.1-percent increase in the much broader Consumer Price Index.

That's because the seasonal holiday price index looks at a much smaller group of goods and services, explained Jim Dunigan, managing executive of investment for PNC Wealth Management.

Even within the index itself, there are some goods that have seen small increases and others that have seen large ones, Dunigan said.

Also, gold prices are high — which pushed the cost of "five gold rings up 32 percent to $5,499.95 — on par with the cost of hiring entertainers, tied to exercise the hens.

"There's no doubt that our feathered friends in general make up a good portion of this increase," Dunigan said.

The price of feed and its availability led to a 78.8-percent increase in the price of two turtle doves to $185, and a whopping 233-percent increase in the cost of three French hens to $7,500.

According to Dunigan, higher prices aren't necessarily a bad thing.

"The good news is that the US economy is improving, partners are starting to see some pockets of price increases, as long as they're not barred to contribut, "he said.

Only four of the 12 gifts in the song didn't go up on price from last year. The pear tree ($12.50) and including the partridge), four calling birds ($500.00), six geese ($10.50) and the eight maids-a-milking ($50).

The most expensive item on the list was $6,284.03 to hire nine ladies dancing, a 15-percent increase from last year. The cheapest was $13 for one partridge, a 30-percent increase.

PNC Financial Services Group Inc. checks pantry stores, dance companies, pet stores and other sources to compile the list. Some of its sources this year include the National Aviary in Pittsburgh and the Philadelphia-based Pennsylvania Ballet Company.

The annual index is also used in middle and high schools across the country to teach economic trends.

The company's website includes an MP3 download, games and more about the index. *AP*

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The Daily Gospel

Tuesday, November 30, 2010
Andrew, apostle

1st Reading: Rom 10:9-18
Gospel: Mt 4:18-22

As Jesus walked by the lake of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. He said to them, "Come, follow me, and I will make you fishers of people."

At once they left their nets and followed him.

He went on from there and saw two other brothers, James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John, in a boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets. Jesus called them.

At once they left the boat and their father and followed him.

Commentary:

"Come, follow me and I will make you fish for people."

Together with the brothers of the Apostles of Jesus and with all the saints, we are called to follow Jesus. Jesus is worthy, he is wholly human as we go

Palace rules out sending of troops to Korea

MALACAÑANG yesterday ruled out the deployment of troops to South Korea in the event war breaks out there with North Korea and said that the government could only provide humanitarian assistance, like dispatching a medical mission.

President Aquino's spokesperson, Edwin Lacierda, said that while South Korea had not sought any help, the Philippines would "honor whatever obligations that we have entered into."

Lacierda was reacting to a statement over the weekend by Interim President Jose Brace Ejarlo that the Philippines has a mutual defense agreement with the United States and would be compelled to respond to any threats against each other.

Lacierda said there were "consensual" and "institutional" ties between the Armed Forces of the Philippines and that was why "we have to be realistic about our capability."

He said that the government could only provide "humanitarian assistance" like doctors to South Korea "if and when we are asked to provide assistance."

The leftist group Bayan in a statement issued by its secretary general, Renato Reyes, disputed Ejarlo's position, calling the treaty with the United States "a relic of Pax era" that should now be abrogated.

"It would be unacceptable to allow Philippine facilities to be used in staging ground by the US military. We have already pushed the US military from agreement. We are no longer allow the US unlimited access to our facilities to conduct their war operations," he said. Reports from Christine D. Avendaño and Leila B. Salaverria

South Korea vows retaliation

From page A1

two civilians conscripts who were killed, and 18 others injured.

The renewed live-fire drills may serve to underline Lee's attempts to be more forceful with the North, as he is keen to test new weapons being installed on the island.

The military has added long-range artillery guns, doubling the amount of K9 howitzers to 12, and multiple rocket launchers to Yeonpyeong, the Yonhap news agency reported, citing unnamed military officials.

The South Korean island was declared a special security area, which could pave the way for the evacuation of about 500 remaining residents, journalists and officials.

Fresh threat

Minutes after Lee finished his speech, North Korea issued a fresh threat to attack South Korea and the United States, calling the allies' joint war drills "yet another grave military provocation."

Clashes in disputed waters off the west coast are not uncommon, with dozens of sailors killed and warships sunk over the past 11 years, but Tuesday's attack on Yeonpyeong was the first time a residential area had suffered a direct hit.

The attack raised tensions on the peninsula to their highest level in at least two decades, but experts say they are unlikely to lead to an all-out war.

Anger growing

Anger at the attack is growing in South Korea, putting pressure on the conservative government to get tough. In Seoul, about 500 former soldiers and police burned North Korean flags and effigies of North Korean leader Kim Jong-il.

Moody's Investors Service said uncertainty over reconciliation have already been factored into South Korea's credit ratings.

Reckless stance

But the agency said it was still determining whether the recent attack marked a fundamentally more reckless stance by North Korea.

Markets in Seoul mirrored the broader region on Monday, as players judged the latest spat to bring no more than previous between the Koreas, who are still technically at war having only signed a truce to stop fighting in the 1950-53 era.

Emergency talks

China has proposed emergency talks amid global pressure on Beijing to be more aggressive in helping resolve the standoff between its ally Pyongyang which depends on Beijing for aid.

Washington and Tokyo were unconvinced, saying they would consult with Seoul, which was sceptical of the proposal to sit down with Pyongyang, effectively rewarding it for bad behavior.

The exclusive North was previously offered massive aid in return for denuclearization pledges that went nowhere.

Skepticism

A senior South Korean official also expressed skepticism about the Chinese call. Japan's Kyodo news agency said. North Korea has yet to issue an official response but the official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said countries "responsible for [the latest] unrest[s]" should first hold talks.

Beijing is wary of the collapse of Pyongyang, which could send millions of refugees across its border and lengthen the US-South Korea alliance in a possibly-reunified Korea.

Talks on Korea

The white-blowing Washington website, a revealing cache of US diplomatic cables, said there had been talks between US and South Korean officials about the prospects of a unified Korea, according to The New York Times.

South Korea considered economic inducements to China to "help solve" Chinese concerns about living with a reunified Korea, according to the American ambassador to Seoul, Encarnacion said.

More maneuvers

US and South Korean forces staged a second day of maneuvers in the waters off Taean province, 180 kilometers south of Yeonpyeong island and out of range of North Korean artillery.

The third in a series of joint large-scale drills since the sinking of the South's Cheonan warship in March, the exercises were defensive in nature and demonstrated US commitment to regional security, the US military said.

Normalizing

In the South Korean capital Seoul, dazed to some, life and business seems on an normal.

Authorities lifted a ban on South Koreans travel to the joint Kaesong industrial complex in North Korea for the day.

"It feels a little more emotional than previous occasions, but we've been here before," said Yun Byeon, 42, a Bolton working for the Tesco supermarket chain in Seoul.

"We just solve nothing. Doesn't see much point in worrying too much." Reports from Reuters and AP

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Supremo's prose reveals brave patriot

From page A1

"Bonifacio has been posthumously crowned. He has been given a new personality and a childhood that may bear little resemblance to his real one," historian Glenn Anthony May had commented.

"The national hero who has emerged from this process of recreation...that Bonifacio celebrated in history textbooks and memorialized in statues around the Philippines—is, in many, something closer to a fantastical myth," he added.

Much of what every Filipino student knows about Bonifacio was culled from the writings of historians using first-hand narratives of witnesses and prying entrails to the national uprising.

Bonifacio's close biographers are enthused by these historians' subjective interpretations, such as that of Epifanio de los Santos' attack in "Revista Filipina," which aimed to vindicate the Supremo from the "sins and words" of the cavalry of subjecting to his being given due recognition" or to raise Bonifacio to the proportion of a "class struggle" dissatisfied with the inadequacies of the reform movement and apathy of the educated gentry for the masses.

Sparse writings

Pate has been unkind to Bonifacio's literary fare, its ignominious death ended a life shrouded in mystery and the sole tangible evidence of his existence are a handful of photographs and some sparse writings, which remain controversial among historians.

Nevertheless, these snippets of prose and poetry may provide a clear picture of the personality and national workings of Bonifacio's mind. Unquestionably this body of writings reveal a man that inspired an adequate education and to adapt in writing in an elegant script, passionate for his ideals and nationalistic principles.

Bonifacio's revolutionary poetry diverged from the critical yet cautious literature of the Reform Movement.

Poetry by Bonifacio

During the Reform Movement, poetry composed by the educated "ilustrados" such as Marcelo H. del Pilar employed popular literary forms such as the "dupla," a verbal joust in improvised versification, to ridicule friars' the unbridled opulence and the Spanish civil servants' corruption.

ANDRES BONIFACIO

Bonifacio's poetry, on the contrary, is somber and reflective, turning its romantic air but encapsulating a witty political opinion to gain the attention and involvement of the masses in the struggle for reform, according to literary critic Bienvenido Lumbera.

Though Del Pilar's essays portray such as "Sagot ng Tagalinsa Pag-ibig sa Tinubuang Lupa," is primarily assailed the abuses of friars and advocated concerted action from Filipinos, there was a note of restraint and ambiguity...either to endure oppression or seek for the country's good...some of his writings be rejected from a feeble Spain:

"Ito na nga lamang ang mainam/ ng talinong ito ni hilik ng/ tungkol sa/ sandyan ng/ pilipinas, huwag nating/ ng/ mga ito/ sisihin/ ang/ kapalaran/ ng/ lupa."

(This is all that can be said in regard to your plight by your crippled mother, dear one;/ your wound is fragile; let not your arms droop/ for a weapon comes at third one.)

"Tapunan ng Lingap"

Conversely, Bonifacio's "Tapunan ng Lingap," admonished his countrymen to reject the reprehensible habits and lifestyle introduced by the Spanish, which have tarnished the Filipino's native psyche, and encouraged a revolt against oppression and bravely faced the enemy to possess the country's interests:

"Mga kapatid ko't/ mahal ang/ ating/ ina,/ sa mga bahta ng/ kaw't/ lang/ aalis/ ngati ng/ aang sa/ kalayaan/ ay/ ating/ ipaglaban."

(Brothers of mine,/ hands/ of the beautiful Spanish/ exaggerated beats,/ it is the habit of he who is devoid of courage/ to frighten us.../ even with his words./

And don't be afraid to fight/ the race of executioners,/ the Spanish race,/ they are born to/ submit to slavery./ (they want to/ get what is ours.)

Justifying revolution

In the same vein, Bonifacio's prose works such as "Dapat Mabatid ng/ mga Tagalog" served as a declaration of distrust and repudiation of Spain's inability to abide by its promises to bring justice and prosperity to the Philippines, thus justifying a revolution to cleanse societal evils.

"Kinatura ng kawalan, na sasila ngayon ang pang masasamang ilandi labat labing kabirguan, ka-Jat labing kasinlukan, labat labing kasipunan at labat labing kasiphayuan ... Amatore ng kabanalan, ang/ mga/ tunay/ sa/ ngayo ang pamahon sa pag-asa at pinapahalag kapitAmatore sa hindi dunating at hindi nangyayari ... Amatore ng kaunawan ang sayo't magkasama/ ang magkaibang aya at akala at ng sayo't magkakilan, ang mas Aanap ang magkakaiba/ Amatore ang kaunawan ng Bayan."

Because little is that we can not expect anything but more sufferings, more treachery, more insults, and more slavery. Because only in me to some time hoping for the promised prosperity that will never come and materialize. Because only we be united in sentiment, thought, and purpose in order to have the strength to combat the prevailing evils in our country."

Catalyst

Because of his proficiency to the vernacular, Bonifacio's writing served as a catalyst for the nationalist awakening through the Katipunan, spurring on the Filipino's political development and popularizing lingering poetry during the late 19th century.

True enough, though little known even the physical traits and features of Bonifacio, a visual pictures of bravery and patriotism still stem from his surviving literary works.

Much more investigation is necessary to uncover the elusive Bonifacio, and another interesting area of inquiry is the formation of his character through his choice of books to augment his thirst for knowledge.

Ildefonso Alano Reyes C. Patricio is the curator of the National Historical Commission of the Philippines.)

Why celebrate Bonifacio Day?

From page A1

because it happens to be a national holiday (although it was moved to Nov. 29 as part of economic holidays.)

Filipinos will either go to the malls, amusement parks and beaches, go out of town or stay at home and watch television all day. Institutions too forget the true essence of this holiday.

The declaration of Nov. 30 as a national holiday started when the Philippine Legislature passed Act No. 2946 on Feb. 26, 1921, making that day of each year a legal holiday to commemorate Bonifacio's birth.

Bonifacio was one of the leading protagonists in the struggle for freedom against the Spaniards.

Secret society

Together with Ladislao Diwa, Emilio Jacinto, Teodoro Plata and a few others, he established the secret society called Katipunan.

They decided that they should do something radical to achieve independence because the peaceful campaign for reforms had proven to be ineffective.

Through the Katipunan, Bonifacio launched a nationwide revolution. He called for resurrection of members of the Katipunan which led to countless serious raids on various armories and camps of the Spaniards.

Bonifacio became the commander in chief of the revolutionary army with the power of appointing Katipunan military leaders in provinces around the country. He even named Magdalo chapter in Cavite province ruling for leadership.

Bonifacio became the target of Spanish forces who believed his death would weaken the Katipunan. But, he did not die at the hands of the ensuing but at the hands of rivals in the Katipunan.

Together with his brother Procopio, Bonifacio was killed on May 10, 1897. After the death of Bonifacio, Emilio Aguinaldo became the overall leader. The struggle for independence was no longer focused on Manila. The focus shifted to Cavite and to the other Tagalog provinces.

Inspiration

Bonifacio was the light that guided the revolution. The struggle for freedom he and the Katipuneros started became the inspiration of other revolutionary groups to continue the fight for freedom.

His fought for something he believed was right and his launching the Philippine Revolution was an act of nationalism.

He may not be an intellectual like Jose Rizal, Marcelo del Pilar or Apolinario Mabini but he loved his country equally and deserved of a self-governing Philippines. Bonifacio truly deserves to be included in the pantheon of our heroes.

The red mark on the calendar on Nov. 30 not only reminds us that it is a holiday but more importantly that it is the birth of a freedom fighter.

Ildefonso Alano Reyes III Quirore is a History Researcher II of the National Historical Commission of the Philippines.)

Studies find Philippines a disaster waiting to happen

From page A1

sweating planet.

On the eve of the Cancun conference, President Aquino declared a Global Warming and Climate Change Consciousness Week, calling on the people to adjust their lifestyles to prevent further degrading the environment as the temperatures climb, ice melts, seas rise and the climate does not react well to this unpredictable ways.

Mr. Aquino also ordered the revamping of the 914.7-billion Laguna Lake rehabilitation project in order to include additional features to remove contaminated silt, save the watershed, install flood monitoring equipment, and provide livelihood programs for displaced fishermen.

The President's order came on a day we once: Some 78,000 fishermen live in 370 coastal villages around the lake area covering 90,000 hectares.

A triple-agency international study has found Metro Manila, together with three other Asian coastal megacities, to be grave danger of killer floods and storm surges because their storm surge now takes ways are taken less. An average of 20 typhoons strike the country yearly.

The government-run Laguna Lake Development Authority (LLDA) is finalizing a master planning after Typhoon "Ondoy" unleashed killer floods a year ago that kept parts of Metro Manila underwater for many months.

The state-owned water regulatory agency MWSS, however, parried that many more parts of Metro Manila have slid below sea level because of sinking water tables. In said areas, siltation had also greatly weakened the Pasig River's capacity to drain floodwaters into Manila Bay, threatening to swamp the capital after even just a heavy thunderstorm.

An Asian-formed ED think tank, Pacific Strategies and Assessments, recently assessed the Aquino administration of underestimating the threat of natural disasters on the "most vulnerable" part of the archipelago—Mindanao Island—and overestimating government preparedness to cope with natural disasters like typhoons, floods and earthquakes in many parts of the country.

A series of international conferences over the past two years—in Bali, Indonesia, in 2008, Copenhagen, Denmark, in 2009, and now in Cancun...is supposed to produce scant progress in reaching an enforceable global treaty to curb pollution by the world's leading industrial economies, notably China, India, the European Community and the United States.

Silver lining

Happily, the gathering storm clouds have produced a silver lining: Filipino scientists are close to finding a breakthrough solution to environmental problems once assured by fossil fuel. They are growing a species of algae notable to large-scale biofuel production, an alternative energy source envisioned to a new economy line.

Lumbera, 1st "God It," is heating up the global warming momentary first raised by the documentary "An Inconvenient Truth" and a disturbing UN report warning of imminent environmental disasters caused by climate change.

The earlier documentary won an Academy Award that catapulted former US Vice President Al Gore to the world stage and a new career as environmentalist. We there work in raising global warming awareness. Gore shared a Nobel Peace Prize with the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

Skeptical

"God It" is making enough waves to rank the host nation's big Gore's brand of environmental activities. The film questions the scientific basis of the climate change efforts predicted by Gore and some 2,500 scientists comprising the UN panel.

"God It" is based on lectures and a book of the same title by Ilocos Lumbera, controversial author of "The Skeptical Environmentalist." Lumbera founded the Copenhagen Consensus Center, a think tank that puts forward the views of the world's leading economists on major global problems.

The award-winning filmmaker, Ondi Timoner, traveled the warming globe together with Lumbera to document climate change and find the most practical solutions to environmental problems.

Scare tactics

Lumbera says that Gore "invented the language" of climate change and that Gore's movie was designed to scare people "out-less." He says a "works very well as a scary way to get everyone's attention" but is an "incredibly poor way to make good decisions" about climate solutions.

Lumbera does not deny climate change but questions the scientific bases of the UN panel's predicted environmental consequences. He also questions the cost effectiveness of proposed ways to fight global warming.

"There's a lot of amazing ideas," says Lumbera, "Solar and wind, of course, but we also look at growing your own oil fields through algae in the ocean, making artificial photosynthesis..."

Lumbera says current efforts on cut carbon emissions would reduce global temperatures only by unnoticeable tenth fraction. He counts spent for research could radically cut the costs of improving existing alternative energy sources and developing new ones.

Breakthrough

In one such effort, Philippine scientists have identified a species of algae capable of producing commercial quantities of oil for fuel.

Teresita Bellotindos, dean of Ateneo University's Department of Environmental Science, has isolated species of algae that can yield 50 to 60 percent oil when grown in a medium containing nutrients that increase production.

The Ateneo scientists are looking at growing algae with cut using chemical fertilizers. They are experimenting with chicken manure, hog waste, and even fresh water lakes as alternative growth media.

Zero emissions

To preserve the environment, the Ateneoscientists are testing a closed carbon loop method to grow the algae, harvesting it, then burning it by-product of aerobic digestion is fed back to enrich the growth medium, thus avoiding releasing CO2 into the atmosphere.

After the oil is extracted, the algae becomes a rich source of protein and carbohydrates for feeding fish and livestock, completing the cycle.

An advantage of producing fuel oil from algae is that the process does not displace crop lands for food production. Instead of growing food like corn, soybean and sugar cane, thus keeping prices stable. Algae are 100 times more efficient than soybean in using arable land.

Hence, the airplane manufacturers enthusiasts that growing enough soybeans to supply the fuel needs of the aviation industry for a year would require fields as big as Europe, but algae would need only 30,000 square kilometers of ponds, the size of Belgium.

Disaster-prone

The World Bank joint study selected seven cities around the Manila—together with Asia's biggest megacities, Bangkok and Ho Chi Minh City—to grave danger of natural calamities triggered by climate change.

The country is already suffering the quadruple-whammy effects of global warming identified by UN climate scientists: rising sea levels, floods triggered by killer typhoons, dwindling drinking water supplies, crop failures by droughts, and shrinking food crops from parched agricultural lands.

A cost survey rise in sea level resulting from melting polar ice caps could put 6% of the country's total economic loss per person...in harm's way according to the environmental group Greenpeace.

That's equivalent to 700 million square meters of coastal lands covering half of the country's 7,100 islands, including where half of the population depends on seafood as the main source of protein.

In 2000, alone, 3 million Filipinos were directly affected by natural disasters, according to the intergovernment Centre for Disaster Response Center. The number is expected to rise with rising temperatures and sea levels.

Waiting to happen

A World Bank study done after Typhoons "Ondoy" and "Pepeng" struck last year, titled "Post Disaster Needs Assessment," recommended "climate changes in land-use planning, housing, water management, and environmental protection."

Another World Bank study, done with the Asian Development Bank and the Japan International Cooperation Agency, titled "Climate Risks and Adaptation in Asian Coastal Megacities," warned of climate-induced disasters in Metro Manila unless major steps were taken in time.

The study recommended constructing the Marikina Dam and embankments on the Pasig-Marikina river basin, and improving two major pumping stations serving Metro Manila. Targeted beside the Mangahan River and to the Camanava area (Caloocan, Malabon, Navotas and Valenzuela).

Manila sinking

After Ondoy struck, the LLDA disclosed that the lake's capacity to hold floodwaters had been cut down only by silt dumped by 24 river withe tarries from denuded watersheds.

The MWSS has disclosed that many more sections of Metro Manila have slid several feet below sea level because of sinking water tables being rapidly depleted by deep wells.

The agency also reported that the capacity of the Pasig River has dangerously reduced its capacity to drain Metro Manila of floodwaters caused by even minor thunderstorms.

In the southern Luzon provinces devastated by Supertyphoon "Juan" in October, the work of rebuilding broken lives and ravaged communities continues outside the peripheral vision of Manila...amid the most environmental disaster strikes.

Antonio "Tonyo" Cabangon, a chief executive of a think tank specializing in transforming social, political, cultural and technological trends into business strategy. Comments are welcome at Mr. Cabangon's e-mail address: tonyo2000@gmail.com.)

Senate to probe real ownership of Edsa MRT 3

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

THE SENATE will conduct a probe to determine who really owns Edsa-Metro Rail Transit 3 (MRT 3), as well as other questionable transactions involving companies that have connection with the Department of Finance (DOF) and the Philippine National Police (PNP).

Sen. Francis Escudero, chairman of the Senate committee on ways and means, said he will file a resolution calling for the investigation.

Escudero said the Senate will look into the alleged connection of Ricardo Puno Jr., son of Interior Secretary Jesse Robredo, with the Philippine Transmarine Carriers Inc. (PTC), which is reportedly the real owner of the Edsa MRT 3.

Puno is the president of PTC.

Escudero said the Senate will also look into the alleged connection of Lt. Gen. Jesus Versoza, chief of the Philippine National Police, with the Philippine Transmarine Carriers Inc.

Versoza is the brother-in-law of Puno.

Escudero said the Senate will also look into the alleged connection of Finance Undersecretary Gil Beltran with the Philippine Transmarine Carriers Inc.

Beltran is the brother of Puno.

Escudero said the Senate will also look into the alleged connection of Finance Undersecretary Juanita Amatong with the Philippine Transmarine Carriers Inc.

Amatong is the sister-in-law of Puno.

Escudero said the Senate will also look into the alleged connection of Finance Undersecretary Antonio Carpio with the Philippine Transmarine Carriers Inc.

Carpio is the brother-in-law of Puno.

Escudero said the Senate will also look into the alleged connection of Finance Undersecretary Jose Isidro Camacho with the Philippine Transmarine Carriers Inc.

Camacho

Across the NATION
Assistant Editor Tony Bergonia

PCSO to end STL permits by Dec. 30

13 hurt in plane crash

TUGUEGARAO CITY—Two pilots and 11 passengers of a light plane bound for Basco in Batanes were hurt on Monday when the aircraft crash-landed in Iguig, Cagayan, police said.

Senior Supt. Mac Aplasca, Cagayan police director, said a 12-seat Beechcraft Queen Air 65 (call number RPC 111) landed on a corn field before it hit a river bed in Barangay San Vicente at 1:30 p.m., minutes before it was supposed to land at the airport in this city some 16 km from the crash site. The pilots and passengers suffered minor injuries.

The plane, which came from Basco, Batanes, was scheduled for a gasoline stop at the airport here before it leaves for its final destination in Laoag City in Ilocos Norte.

"The pilot had managed to make a normal landing along the riverbed to refuel the airport of the crash and prevent any explosion," said Aplasca.

He said among the 13 passengers are elementary students and their teachers who are joining a Boy Scouts of the Philippines activity in Cabagan, Isabela. Villamor Vinjoy Jr. and Melvin Gascon, Inquirer Northern Luzon

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—The Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO) has decided to terminate by the end of this year the permits it has issued to operators of the Small Town Lottery (STL), allowing renewal of permits or filing of new applications.

Local Government Secretary Jesse Robredo confirmed the latest efforts of the PCSO when sought for opinion on how the state-owned gaming firm was working to strengthen STL.

The PCSO revived the STL in 2006 on the orders of the former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, now representative of the second district of Pampanga, to eliminate the illegal numbers game "jueteng."

Two Senate committees investigated the agency this year to see, Miriam Defensor-Santiago and retired Archbishop Oscar Cruz, heard reports that jueteng has enjoyed a strong resurgence because some officials in the Aquino administration have been supposedly protecting the illegal numbers game.

During the hearings, the PCSO bought off a proposal to devolve to local governments the operations of STL.

"Mr. [Margarita] Juico [PCSO chair] and I talked many days ago and she said she [was] inclined to end the STL, no ifs and buts," Robredo said in an interview in Candaba town on Friday. He spoke from office the town's new set of village leaders.

The new PCSO management has not made public its view on the rules and regulations governing STL although its generic drawings, Jose Perdiguerra Jr. and Rufus B. Rodriguez, have announced several mechanics during the Oct. 8 hearing. It has not also made public the findings of an audit done on the books of reports that its agents have been underreporting their income.

The PCSO has not also made public the names of agent-corporations working permits to run STL so it would allay suspicions that jueteng financiers or operators are taking control of the government-sanctioned game and use it as a legal cover for jueteng, as Cruz had claimed.

In a July 22 report, police confirmed that STL was relaunched "primarily as the traditional jueteng reformed game."

PCSO documents showed that the agency has given deeds of authority to 34 agent-corporations. The Philippine Pacific Star Corp. in Subic City, Zbtec, was suspended in April 2009 while the Golden Gaity Interest Corp. in Bataan stopped operations in February this year.

Documents from the Securities and Exchange Commission showed that at least four STL agents have the same contact person, shared the same accountant and used the same vanity public.

A report prepared by the police's intelligence directorate estimated that jueteng raked in P2.4 billion in monthly gross sales, with Pampanga posting the highest: monthly sales of P300 million.

Bulacan and Cagayan receipts reached P6.5 billion from January 2008 to August 2010.

Interior Undersecretary Rico Puno told senators that jueteng stash as much as P20 billion a year. Tuesto Gregas, Inquirer Central Luzon

Slain vice mayor had planned to file raps against military officer

DAVAO CITY—Before he was killed, Alexander Tomawis, the vice mayor of Barira town in Maguindanao province who was shot dead Sunday outside his residence here, had discussed with a friend the cases he filed against a military officer without he had a rift during the last election.

Tara Villarin, chair of the Mindanao Commission of the Status of Children, said Tomawis updated him on the cases he filed against Col. Ernesto Anduzan, commander of the 603rd Infantry Brigade which is based in Barira.

"A few hours before his death, we met in a coffee shop to discuss the cases he filed against Col. Ernesto B. Anduzan in the Office of the Ombudsman, provincial prosecutor and the Commission on Elections. During the recent barangay elections, the two had a heated argument as the military was interviewing in the local elections," Villarin said.

Earlier, Anduzan denied Tomawis of commandeering the ballots for his town. Tomawis was stopped by the military and subjected to questioning. The vice mayor later accused Anduzan of interfering in the elections.

Offenses

Tomawis filed illegal detention and election offenses under the Omnibus Election Code against Anduzan on Nov. 3. On Friday, Tomawis filed with the Ombudsman the cases of grave misconduct and grave abuse of authority against Anduzan, Maj. Mohaimin Sangki, Lt. Marajo Marallyungal—all of the 603rd Infantry Brigade based in Barira.

"Mohayan-Mindanao highly condemns the vicious murder of Vice Mayor Tomawis and calls upon the Commission on Human Rights to investigate this murder," Villarin said.

The group also urged the Armed Forces of the Philippines to immediately relieve Anduzan. "While many will disagree with the way he ran his municipality, he was an ordinary man who brought back to life Barira—command and control headquarters of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF)—after the 2008 all-out war by Ermita," Villarin said.

The ambitious approach of Tomawis to make the ethnic group of Iranun become a power political block in Maguindanao "created many enemies against him," he said.

Barira has been a recipient of some P500-million worth of development projects in 2001-2004 and partnered with government and local and international aid agencies.

Alliance

"While perceived to be close to Andal Ampatuan Jr., Mayor Alim had to resort to seek an alliance with the Ampatuans to have leverage against the other political senabuk in the area," Villarin said—adding that after the Maguindanao massacre of Nov. 23 last year, Tomawis distanced himself from the Ampatuans and organized new municipal mayoral slate under Akoyan Imunkaniko that delivered the votes for President Aquino.

A special task group has been created by the Southern Mindanao Police Command to avenge the killing of Tomawis.

Supt. Quorsibh Mandang, spokesperson of the police in Southern Mindanao, said that Chief Supt. Pedro Tango has ordered the creation of Task Group Tomawis.

Tomawis was attacked by two suspects outside his house in Hillside Subdivision, Bulangik. The suspects fled on board a motorcycle. Investigators are still trying to learn the motives behind the killing. AP *Joey M. Nopen, Inquirer Mindanao*

Chinese tourist shoots dead compatriot in Clark

CLARK FIELD, Pampanga—A Chinese tourist was arrested for fatally shooting another Chinese inside a villa at the Fontana Leisure Park and Casino here on Sunday.

In a report on Monday, Chief Insp. Lucito Tan, chief of the Police Station 4 in Angeles City, said Shubaoi Co, also known as Stephanie Co, died at the Mt. Carmel Hospital here due to bullet wounds in the body. Co was a resident of Quezon City.

Tan said Wang Feng Then, 46, also known as Michael Ong, a tourist residing a villa at the Fontana Leisure Park here, was arrested.

Wang's companion, Zeng Hua Quiang, was taken to the Angeles University Foundation Medical Center after he was hit by a bullet in the arm.

In a sworn statement, Cai Qing Ping, 35, the sole eyewitness, said he was with Co in the latter's condominium unit in Quezon City around 12:30 a.m. on Sunday.

"I was sleeping at [Co's] unit when he awoke me up and told me to [accompany] him to Angeles City because [Wang] asked him to go to his place to settle the money he owed [Co]. While preparing to go to Angeles City I heard [Co] and Michael Ong [Wang] arguing on the phone regarding the money," Cai said.

He said when they arrived at the Fontana Leisure Park, he saw the men inside Ong's villa. Cai said Ong escorted Co to the pool area at the back of the villa where they talked.

"A few minutes later, I heard [Co] and [Wang] shouting at each other, prompting me to go to the pool area to pacify them and reminding them that they are friends. [Wang] then took out a gun hidden under the tea tray and without any hesitation, shot ... Co two to three times... After Co fell, [Wang] at gunpoint asked me to lie on the ground and then I heard he shot the ground three times," Cai said.

Cai said he heard Wang instruct the other men in the villa to stand as witnesses and tell investigators that the gun belonged to Co and that he only grabbed it from the victim.

Bai Hui Zhing Long, 33, one of the men inside the villa, told police that it was Co who took out a gun and placed it on top the table while he was talking to Wang at the pool area.

Bai said while the two were arguing, Co picked up the gun but Long, who was watching over them, grabbed the pistol from Co. The gun went off during the scuffle, hitting Long in the arm.

Tan said Wang then took the gun from Co and shot him several times in the body. *Jun Medina, Inquirer Central Luzon*

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

OPINION

Media agenda

EDITORIAL

ON THE weekend the Rappler.com ng mga Breakfaster ng Pilipinas held a conference on "How Today's Media Set the Nation's Agenda." Looking at agenda-setting from the perspectives of the media and the governments, the conferees found that there is a lot of congruence between the agendas of the two sectors.

Agenda-setting is one of the most important functions of the media in a democracy. "Agenda" is usually defined as a set of policies or issues to be addressed by an individual or a group; it is also a set of underlying motives for political policy.

It was the renowned journalist Walter Lippmann who first observed the agenda-setting function in his book "Mass Media, Mass Confusion." He defined it as the process whereby the mass media determine what people think and worry about.

Researchers Maxwell McCombs and Donald Shaw next described the agenda-setting function in their book "Emergence of American Political Issues." They said the most important effect of mass communication is its ability to order and organize our world for us. "The mass media may not be successful in telling us what to think, but they are stunningly successful in telling us what to think about," they said.

The agenda-setting function has four components: (1) media agenda-issues that are discussed in the media, (2) public agenda-issues discussed among members of the public, (3) policy agenda-issues that policymakers, such as legislators, consider important, and (4) corporate agenda-issues that big corporations consider important. It would be ideal for the country if these could be congruence among the first three components.

We propose the following media agenda. The list is not exhaustive but we believe these are the top problems and concerns.

1. Poverty. Related to this is unequal distribution of wealth and unemployment. The latest Social Weather Stations survey on self-rated poverty shows that 45 percent of the population rated themselves as poor.

2. Corruption. President Aquino has linked this with the problem of poverty. As much as P100 billion a year is lost due to corruption, the United Nations Development Programme said in 2004. This figure must have doubled during the latter part of the Arroyo administration.

3. Substandard, low-quality education. Quality education is one of the best weapons against poverty but we do not have this in our country. But things seem to be moving for instance, K + 12 is being seriously studied.

4. Inequitable, turtle-paced justice system. Generally, justice in our country is only for the rich and the influential. The weak justice system has given rise to a culture of impunity. Clearly, the justice system is in need of drastic reform.

5. Lack of hospitals and nonfiscal and health facilities. It has often been said that many people live and die without even once seeing a doctor or getting treated in a hospital. If the health care system could be expanded and more hospitals and clinics could be built, we would be a healthier nation.

6. Peace and order. The police say the crime rate is going down, but tell that to the scores of people who are being robbed, assaulted, kidnapped, raped and killed every week. We have an open war in the land because of the counterwar, NPA and MILF insurgencies.

7. Agriculture and agrarian reform. These two sectors have not been given sufficient attention by the government. It is ironic that the Philippines, a rice-growing country and home of the UP College of Agriculture and the International Rice Research Institute, has to import rice almost every year. If serious implementation of the agrarian reform program would lift farmers from the depths of poverty.

This is just part of our media agenda. We hope that it would also be the public and policy agenda. One major postulate of agenda-setting is influence transfer, which is the ability of the mass media to transfer issues of importance from the mass media agenda to the public and policy agendas.

At last weekend's KBP conference an encouraging starting point was made. Communications Secretary Herminio Coloma said that many of the items on the media agenda were also on the agenda of the administration. We hope the people would also adopt them as part of the public agenda and that they would pressure the administration to act on them expeditiously.

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Balance as gift

VIEWPOINT

Juan L. Mercado

"HALF THE journalists are only interested in the issue of condoms," groused Peter Seesmith. He's the Australian author of the new book interview with Benedict XVI, "Light of the World: The Pope, The Church and The Signs Of The Times."

The Pope's statements dealt with carnival of sin planets that threatened, Seesmith said. "He appeals to humanity—our world is in the process of collapse."

Instead, many reporters zeroed in on two questions at the end of chapter 10. Their draft: with the use of condoms against HIV/AIDS. The Pope posed deeper questions on a "humanization of sexuality."

Seesmith decried a "crisis of journalism." In deed, balance is not a strength for many of us. Yet, November did signal overdrive by journalists (some Leftist).

The World Health Organization as well as Speaker Feliciano Belmonte, among many others, jumped into the fray to dot our cosmic moral philosophies. "Condoms are like raincoats in the future," he claimed.

The exchanges were candid. And many commentators were much thought out. A torrent of material on what the Pope meant—or did not mean—to do the Vote. There range from the reaction of the Associate Bioethics Center to a Vatican clarification.

"There may be a kinds, in the case of some individuals, for example, where a male prostitute or as a condom," Benedict noted. "This can be ... a first assumption of moral responsibility ... but this is not really the way to deal with the evil of HIV infection ... That can only be in a humanization of sexuality."

The Pope's statement ignored several thin problem. A deeper appreciation of the complex issue may per result.

His talks, meanwhile, may communication. They are excerpts, since we have a 5,700-that were collated says.

Days by Fr. Hugo Cullen, found in Glasgow, the Irish priest and his coworkers have treated hundreds from sex done. Chaos historically. Cullen bases his comments on actual—and often brutal—cases.

Still and yet again, televise it

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

CONGRESS WILL note on the eve of the first anniversary of the Maguindanao massacre.

"We should not forget," said Speaker Feliciano Belmonte. "Could much hard to make sure that human rights in this country are protected, not only of journalists, but every Filipino. The House will find ways to put in pertinent legislation on the."

"We reiterate our condemnation of the gruesome massacre," said Maguindanao Rep. Simeon Datumanong. He proposed the resumption of the death penalty to make sure something like this never happens again.

Eastern Samar Rep. Ben Evardone, a former journalist, said government should exert itself to stop violence against journalists. He said he would meet with the media organizations to draft measures for this.

Well, there's a simple way to go about all this which is far more effective, one I've been shouting myself hoarse about all this time: Televise the trial.

Making the punishment for heinous crimes just as heinous as the crime has not been known to deter crime. You can run off the usual scripts of rapists and behead murderers and rape and murder will continue as ever. The point is to catch the criminals and jail the criminals. You don't even have to prosecute, crimes will stop. You don't jail the criminals, crime will rise. *Ito ito* how a death penalty in this country, if swiftly-guilty, than is what the police were not to see, parted our thieves and drug dealers. It has not curbed our thieves and drug dealers. It has only made the police murderous.

All the congressmen need to do is enact their collective senses to demand the televising of the trial. That is the only way the atrocity will be remembered. That is the only way the murderers will forever happen again.

The arguments against it are vapid. The notion that it will influence the outcome is plain wrong. The factual impasse because trial was never similar to Estrada. Those when has contemporaneously been unfair to the accused? It's so particularly where the accused pour beyond the immediate criminal to the very justice system of this country. That public sentiment must go on trial in the Erap impeachment along with Erap himself. The people of the Philippines found it innocent, so small thanks to Atlanta Justice's magnificent performance, even as they found Erap guilty. The more wise of principles, at arbiter of justice, in this republic—Joe's country is not the Supreme Court, it is the public.

The need to televise the Ampatuan trial has become even more compelling since I wrote about that week for a couple of reasons.

One is the protection of the witnesses. Of forget the witnesses, the kin of the victims. Even before after their reported from the Ampatuans for their supposed pursuit of justice. Some of the suspicious men who carried out the mayhem remain at large and pose a threat to their welfare. A security on top of a cruelty, an anxiety on top of an anxiety. The Ampatuans, powerful as the previous, though much diminished, has not entirely disbanded, grouped up by a tribe of hapless desperate to hold onto what remains of it. Ismael Mangudadatu himself, who lost his wife and several relatives to the massacre, and who won the election for governor afterward, has been forced to put up the 30 heavily armed men Sharifi signed, which remains an impenetrable.

While televising the Ampatuan trial is no foolproof guarantee the fate of the victims and the witnesses will be safe, it stacks the odds in their favor. High profile is high security, and high profile is higher than a trial that draws the unrelenting glare of TV in particular for weeks or months to come. For the duration of the trial at least, the kin of the dead can do with the assurance public attention gives that they will not be ready to join their loved ones soon.

Two is to make sure the trial moves swiftly. The victims are right when they complain that the defense team has been back-to-back, delay and delay. That is what Philip Ingled Pottenger and company have been doing all this time, putting one hurdle after the other by way of technicalities. The victims are wrong when they seek to remedy that by having Garcia disbarred. As grudge fiscal as Garcia have been shameless. But disbarment is not illegal. The task of grinding cases to a halt by technicalities is a common one, almost an obligatory one for most lawyers pulling behavior, and not out of lawyers. Come to think of it, maybe we should.

But what the law cannot touch, public opinion can. Invitation is the most powerful check on barrister, even if some lawyers have holes that can make elephants feel insecure. A lawyer who is known to be using his tricks to delay every of the public, he won't have the nod of it. We saw that during the impeachment trial when Jejomar Binay and company, which are quite incidentally indicted Pontes, launched into it and got nowhere. If the impeachment trial had been televised, Erap would have not had the luxury of the time he had to prepare his defense. If the impeachment trial had not been televised, Erap would have not had the nerve.

Televising the Ampatuan trial is the only guarantee the thing will move in a curb a speed that the lady with the blindfold herself would be hard pressed to mistake a pace in its motions more efficient. Hell, it's the only guarantee the thing will move at all.

It's the only guarantee we'll have a 10th anniversary of the Maguindanao massacre. If years from now in the same way that we'll have a 10th anniversary of Ninoy's—the culmination of the impeachment's push in its motions more. It's guarantee we won't forget. It's the only guarantee we'll say "Never again!" and actually mean it.

Still and yet again, televise it.

(E-mail: footloser.cdq@gmail.com)

Finding Mindanao's bearings

NO FREE LUNCH

Cielito F. Habito

WHAT WILL it take to "fix" Mindanao?

Today, Mindanao—officials from both the executive and legislative branches of government, led by Mindanao Development Authority (MinDA) Chair Leonardo Montemayor, still exiled to the Presidium and signify commitment to the Mindanao 2020 Peace and Development Framework Plan ("2020 Plan") during the 2007 launch. The product of a participatory formulation process by representatives of a wide cross-section of Mindanaoans for well over a year now, the draft plan is finally complete and awaits validation by those who took part in its formulation and those groups not yet consulted, before and the like. Once affirmed as such and finally endorsed by the National Economic and Development Authority board chaired by the President, Mindanao 2020 will be the framework that will set the directions for more geographically specific and sector-level plans and budgets, in greater consistency and coherence within an overall Mindanao-wide perspective.

At a long recess last summer, Mindanao 2020 seeks to chart the future of Mindanao over the next 20 years, or up to the year 2030. Nevertheless, this time frame, the choice of the name was deliberate. As Montemayor explained, many among the countless people who took part in the plan's formulation "has Mindanaoversus (the widely lamented term for the people of Mindanao) possess these 20/20 vision on the Mindanao they would like to see in 20 years. Gloria is refusing history is to many (or Who) to come to terms with their own images of Mindanao as they words that persistently come up in the formulation process made the sounds of the island group. These key words thus came up the 4-point statement of Mindanao 2020, which under went numerous revisions through equally numerous consultations before it had done into what the Mindanaoans want for Mindanao, to:

In 20 years, Mindanaoans of all cultural or socio-economic backgrounds shall have attained a sustainably uplifted quality of life through their collective achievement of peace-

highlight those elements on which there can be wide agreement. As it turns out, those comprise the bulk of Mindanao's concerns.

An important innovation in the approach of Mindanao 2020 is its use of the environment and natural resources as the "stage" on which to plan for Mindanao's future sustainable development. As a region built on extremely well-endowed and biodiversity along with rich coastal and marine ecosystems, Mindanao's economy has traditionally thrived on production built on its natural wealth: its agriculture, its forests, its fisheries, and its minerals. Agriculture and agribusiness are particularly commendable. Much of the islands' wealth derives from its fertile soils and conducive climate fuelling a thriving agricultural export industry of high value crops such as coconut, banana, pineapple, oil palm and rubber—and many more still awaiting to be tapped. Mindanao's rich forestry industry has been both a boon and a bane, the latter due to some on exploitation abetted by traditional weaknesses in governance, marked by a highly oligarchic power structure.

But development plans of the past, including those for the whole country, are seen to have been too heavily dependent, first under its based definition, the country's territory a four-fifth was to and only one-fifth land. So as archipelago, the Philippines, and Mindanao, in particular, must be planned as an archipelagic area, with full cognizance of its water-based resources both inland and offshore, and its very planning Mindanao's future is indeed wide, and this very stage—Mindanao's bountiful natural wealth—must be nurtured and sustained even as it provides the basis for creating further wealth to benefit all Mindanaoans. For in the end, it is this shared wealth of Mindanao, on which all Mindanaoans have a common stake, that should unite them to rally behind Mindanao 2020 and the peace and development that it envisions to achieve within 20 years...or hopefully less.

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Coming out from the dark

COMMENTARY

Hazel Galang

LAST NOV. 23, many people paused to remember the Maguindanao massacre where at least 57 people, including 32 media workers, were unlawfully, brutally murdered and hastily buried on a hillside in Ampatuan, Maguindanao.

It was one the world's largest ever single attack on journalists. Here in the Philippines, which has suffered killings of journalists under every regime, mass plotted disappointment, and political killings, the scale of the tragedy was astounding.

The families of the slain are still scarred one year on. I arranged to meet with the widows and children of those murdered at a secret safe house a few days before the anniversary of the massacre. I had a password to get in, and walked into a dark, cramped room. All the lights were turned off so that potential attackers would not be led to the site of the interview. As the first signs of twilight, one can't help but spend that a number and the families gathered for dinner.

One by one, these ordinary women emerged from the dark to talk to me, seeking justice against one of the most powerful families in the Philippines, whose they suspect of murdering their children and husbands. Their loved ones were all journalists killed in the line of duty, in the course of supporters of a politician who was running against a member of the Ampatuan clan.

The families of the dead are not covered by the government 500-ass Protection Program, which is why they must go to great lengths to protect themselves. I could be followed, and so I took a taxi to the safe house. I wanted to be left alone. Although members of the Ampatuan family are in detention, the clan still has private armies at its disposal.

The longer the trial of the suspects drags on, the longer the families of the victims will be at risk. One prosecution witness was killed, and the trial is moving even slower. The families of the dead are careful not to make any statements that may anger the perpetrators. The most vocal among them has received the most threatening phone calls and messages, although she is not the only one to get such calls.

COMMENTARY

Hazel Galang is the Philippine correspondent for Amnesty International.

grieved faces of their family breadwinners, and flying in Manila to attend the court hearings has drained their finances. One widow said, "My car went to small debts he would because he is determined that we will have money to keep me going in the court hearings long enough to see this case through. My children could not accept the loss of their father, and they are still in shock. Their lives was smashed and only his clan was left intact. We also offered him through the mob on his clan."

That they have lost their voices to the case at all is a tremendous act of courage and resilience. One of the women says even her neighbors minister has not just keeping up for them, and that they are "on their own." Another widow describes how she and her sister-in-law have to support their family. "When I first confirmed that he was one of those murdered, my blood pressure shot up to 190/100. I told myself to calm down. I have high blood pressure and I am diabetic. What will happen if I die, too? Who will take care of my children?" In I took a cold shower and it helped me calm down. I realized I needed to be strong and not let their anger overcome them. To help them heal, I collected photos of their babies taken from the happiest moments of his life. I put it in an album so our children can look at them when they miss their babies. I set up a small table near our house to sell fruits and vegetables, and I sell them to the neighbors. I'm willing to do anything to support my children."

Another widow describes how she and her sister-in-law have to balance their grief with the need to support their children. She has her daughter's graduation coming up. "When I first confirmed that he was one of those murdered, my blood pressure shot up to 190/100. I told myself to calm down. I have high blood pressure and I am diabetic. What will happen if I die, too? Who will take care of my children? So I took a cold shower and it helped me calm down. I realized I needed to be strong and not let their anger overcome them. To help them heal, I collected photos of their babies taken from the happiest moments of his life. I put it in an album so our children can look at them when they miss their babies. I set up a small table near our house to sell fruits and vegetables, and I sell them to the neighbors. I'm willing to do anything to support my children."

Their lives have been shattered by the massacre, and they have been left to pick up the pieces. But they are not alone. Many people have come out from the dark to support them, and they are finding the strength to speak out against the injustice that has been done to them. Their courage is inspiring, and I am honored to have met them.

Escudero and Bonifacio, ilustrado

NEWSSTAND

John Nery

I DON'T think there is any question that Sen. Francis Escudero's newspaper is the first commercial-format publication of Apostol Brus printed entirely in the Way-Bisaya. One political ad of Escudero's was especially well-timed and well done; it featured the popular but now senator asking the simple question, Who is my opponent? against a backdrop of blurry images. He lengthy appeal began this way: "Ako ay nagtatanong kung sino ang kalaban ko? Hindi Bumalik, bukas Filipino. (My vice president is not rich, not an illustrado, nobo Filipino.)

It is tempting to critique this answer as a set of criteria that disqualifies Teodoro Kinatili from the presidency. But what the text boils to mind is the influence studied at elite universities (he is an alumnus of Georgetown in Washington, D.C., like Bill Clinton and Dwight Ang-ay), and like millions of other Filipinos, will fit right in in Singapore or Hong Kong, or in the loosest sense, in California. But I would like to have learned what the notion of Bumalik, and to speculate that the very theme of us, he Ilokos make a consequential mistake.

Escudero's use of "ilustrado" in the campaign ad sets out the original meaning of "enlightened" (that is, learned) and substitutes for it a sense of class and valor (ancestry). Recognizing the term as a label, the idea that certain families "ilustrado" and the idea that comes after it just known, therefore received. This is not an original achievement; there is something to be admired that allows us to define "Ilustrado" to these contemporary assessment terms.

How consensual? Well, here's a test. The term other like-and-read dumbfound famous today, the revolutionary leader Bonifacio, was he an ilustrado?

Many of us would perhaps answer no. Isn't Bonifacio known in The Great Plebeian? Victor Isidoro Agoncillo, author of the standard history of the Katipunan, describes it, in the first paragraph of the first chapter, as "the dominant plebeian society"! Plain? Bonifacio merely an unschooled bodyguard?

In fact, Agoncillo acted—and the proof is right there in his famous book. "The friends of the Mas-

ter." To lay the predicate, let me quote a crucial paragraph from that small classic of my time, "Roots of Bagumbayan" by Jonathan Day and Ma. Richardson. "The customary point of departure for any discussion of the roots of the Katipunan was organized by The most ignorant element of the Filipino people had been the figure of Andres Bonifacio, popularly commemorated as the "Great Plebeian," founder of the Katipunan and its president at the outbreak of the 1896 revolution. Agoncillo, for instance, described him with words such as: He customary, commander-in-chief, supreme director" and "belonged to the lowest class." Even from the scanty information available on Bonifacio's life, it is certainly clear that the Katipunan Supremo was not of the "lowest class" of Philippine society."

Agoncillo's own evidence to the contrary in dismiss proof of Bonifacio as an enthusiastic reader, a consummate organizer, a conscientious self-re...ected, that is, that Bonifacio was not "almost illiterate" and was not at all unsophisticated.

There's more. Agoncillo also identifies Bonifacio as a freemason (a fact confirmed, among others, by the historian Ambeth R. Ocampo, himself a writer, in 1988.) "This points to another interesting in the view of the Katipunan leader as a simple plebeian," Day and Richardson write. "The majority of Filipino masons in the late nineteenth century were men of some education and affluence, and Bonifacio's membership in the pro-Spanish masonic lodge for the dramatic following of the opposite dramatis propagandists." When Rizal found of in Luis Filipino, he turned to Masons like him will. But this group, Agoncillo had written, "present-

ed the middle class." Feel and Richardson then note: "The Bonifacio was one of Ugis's founding members."

What prevents Agoncillo from seeing the full meaning of the evidence he had himself put together? This blinkered approach has unfortunately hardened into doctrine with the nationalism of Apolinario Mabini and Bonifacio himself as the school of proper nationalism. The very use Agoncillo assumed as against is the same on too many of us as one guilty of uncritical acceptance of a historian author's conclusions. The emotional reader "takes for granted that the basis of an author is sufficient guarantee of reliability and competence," Agoncillo wrote. "Such warned outlook smacks of hopeless and unscientific."

Benito Lumbanitan, in his equally influential "Is Pari Revisited," does make allowances for the evidence, but he, too, defines Bonifacio in terms with an uneven consciousness." This leads John Schumacher, SJ to note, in a lengthy critical review in 1995, "In spite of all these careful distinctions and reservations, in later parts of the book, Ilustrado is consistently used to counterpoint with and even contrast to masses with and even against them." Schumacher, who deeply revised Ben and Richardson's game-changing study into print, in 1979.)

Fine. Bonifacio may not have been a member of the proletariat, but did that make him ilustrado? I am very fascinated a game based on the example of other prominent Filipinos who were born in humble households but, even though they did not, like Rizal, study in Spain—mercilike Emilio Jacinto, Bonifacio's closest co-worker, and Apolinario Mabini, in turn, some that that the enlightenment was more than who were learned and who planned their lives through the use of reason and learning. Ilustrado, like Ilustrino, like Many Ilustrado, must be classified as Ilustrado one.

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Beer with Jesus

I LOOKED at my bottle uneasily, and let my fingernails run carefully, slowly, around the perimeter of the paper glued to my light host. It's a pastime of mine...a habit I always find myself doing while waiting for my drink buddies. As I availed by the bar listening to dance music by Usher, then Rihanna, and then to Chester, I looked at my watch and made a mental note: 12 minutes late.

YOUNG BLOOD

Jaime Mendejar

I scanned this bar and saw no familiar faces. I went on with my habit, until I was able to take the paper off. I folded it neatly, and placed it beside my napkin. I made another mental note: pretty cool job.

We went in Anne what the young people are drinking school. What's their thoughts on current issues? We welcome contributions from the (young) people in the Philippines. Please e-mail us at youngblood@inquirer.com.ph.

I gulped down my ice cold beer, and reacquainted myself with the rim of mug. The beer kept me company and it really felt good.

I observed the froth slowly subsiding but increasingly overcoming, like whipped cream on double-dutch Espresso. I could myself there's a proper way of tilting the bottle to avoid all that. Then I looked at my watch. My buddies were 10 minutes late.

I took out my cell phone and sent them a message asking where they were. I received a number of edible, which were all familiar to me. I thought their excuses anyway.

My mind eventually drifted—partly because of boredom, partly because I was on my third bottle of beer—to the idea that it must be pretty cool to have a few rounds of beer with Jesus. I mean, sure he could order wine, and I could stick with my light beer, and we'd probably have some interesting conversations.

Blasphemous. Not at all. Just toying with the idea.

I like to think Jesus enjoyed hanging out with his friends. More than 2,000 years ago, some their relaxed atmosphere and Mr/were not in darkness, but having food and drinks with friends was pretty common, as the Bible would show. As such, I guess it would be interesting having Jesus with me one evening. We would have a number of topics to choose from for our conversation.

If I did ask Jesus to join me for drinks, I was quite confident he would arrive on time. He'd probably break the ice by talking about my day. I would tell him through the challenging negotiations I had with drivers, last minute changes on projects, countless conference calls, and how I was too tired to change my clothes and do my usual 5-km run. He'd be (a) merely nod, listening to me, laughing once in a while at some one-liners jokes I was telling.

Then he'd probably tell me he had a pretty busy day too. He'd go quickly through how he had spent hours listening to prayers, granting them, saying no's and forgiving friends, and just taking time off his own busy schedule to listen to old friends, such as myself.

He would smile, and look at the menu and ask if I wanted anything...his treat.

I would probably politely decline and say I'm full. He'd pull his chair nearer to me and say "I know you are lying. I see, earlier some one-liner." I'd laugh, knowing that of course he knows it's a lie.

As we went for nachos, we would be talking about our subject: Christ—how they were doing, my sense of about them. I would talk about my office mates, my family and my love life, which isn't going the way I planned it.

Jesus would then assure me, "Do not time, believe me." And of course, I would, but not without pleading, "Can't you make it sooner?"

He would say, "I can consider that. Why don't you ask me next time? I might have an answer for you then. Don't worry. I already know what you like."

When the nachos arrive, I would have moved on my one-and "second" beer. Jesus would still be holding his goblet of wine and would kindly decline the host-order's offer to draw him the wine list. Then he'd ask, "So, what are your plans?"

I would tell him I haven't really thought about them, but I dream of getting promoted, buying this house I really want, settling down, and being happy. I would assure him that everything is fine, but I would admit I need some help in deciding. I'd be needed a drink with me. Wine native. What a stupid thought.)

Then he would chide me: "You ask me out for drinks mean, by because you want advice, you want company, you want an outlet. Mostly to satisfy what you want. Have you ever thought about discussing what I think you want?" I would get deeper into your career, as you add more friends on Facebook, and as more interesting and colorful things happen in your life, you ask less and less about what my dreams are for you."

He would remind me of a statement I am very familiar with, a quote that I value more for its beauty and not than its fundamental truth: "God can dream a bigger dream for you than you can dream for yourself."

I would fall silent and try to digest that quote again, word for word, as if I was hearing it for the first time. God can dream a bigger dream for me than I can ever dream for myself? He can do more than I can imagine? I'm having to lift a finger. Even without me asking for it. But for me to achieve my biggest, boldest, most unbelievable dreams, I must first remember that without God life a lonely and depressing. A life without someone to share your happiness, sadness, burdens and success with can break anyone. Jesus is a person who never abandons me whenever you need it the most, or whenever all the odds are against me. He always finds time to talk, even to friends just strolling time away over hundreds of beer, waiting for his social circle to show up.

But sometimes, I don't listen. I am "too busy" to hear what Jesus is trying to say. Perhaps he is assuring me, answering my prayers, giving advice, urging for me with this really important decision. He even shop or simply reminding me that I need to listen a lot more.

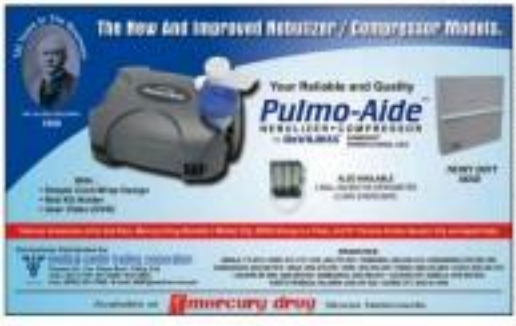
I would thank him for finding some sense into me. He would thank me back for finally taking the time to have been with him. I would make a mental note: Jesus is pretty cool. Still, he does have the most followers in the world, so he is, in an annual sense, pretty popular and well-liked and admired.

It would feel like we had been talking for such a long time... but actually it took only 20 minutes. He would smile at me and ask to be excused, as he waved his other hand to say hello to one of his other friends in the bar, who he also invited to catch up with. I would push my chair back, stand up, and thank him for his time.

"Hope to talk to you soon, Jesus," I would say. And he would respond by saying he hoped to hear from me more often.

I sat down again, my head still spinning, my spirit light. I finished my second bottle and looked at it intently while running my fingers with carefully cleaned off the paper of the paper glued to it. As I peeled it off, I finally saw my friends walking through the door. I spent the rest of that night telling them I just had been with Jesus.

Jaime Mendejar, 25, works in a bank and occasionally drinks beer to unwind.



A prosecutor's delight

SOMETHING is wrong with this picture. Why are we doing only the direct participants in the Maguindanao massacre? Why have fallen President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and her alleged during her incumbency remained unscathed and have not been made to assume the dark arms malfeasance? Their immunity has lapsed, so what are we waiting for? There is no question that those heinous crimes would never have happened had the Arroyo regime not coddled and made instruments of the dictatorship. It gave them life by facts and acted them as the seeds to exchange for political favors. Brave corrupts and in the aura of the dictatorship under GMA's protection, it corrupted absolutely.

Cheating claim was not much basis to indict and convict GMA and her cronies learned economic dons; we submit that a civil case should have been filed against them for clear abuse of power. From the last campaign she faithfully carried the delivery of the arms and ammunition to the Ampatuans so the genocidal, ruthless officials and all their army up to the President (who, we whose approval nothing of the sort would have taken place), a civil case for damages against them should have been filed already—if only to put them on a public trial themselves.

Only with the filing of such a civil case can we compel the attendance of GMA and her cronies to adversarial testimony. That should be a prosecutor's delight to wrest them from their evil lair to tenant their way out of the waters were they created. To date, no accounting has been made of the entire arsenal of deadly weapons delivered by the Arroyo administration to the Ampatuans.

Aside from the area, it's hard to see what the Ampatuans' lawyer said in defense of his defending six more heard people in this country. (Inquirer, 11/22/10) In so many words, he said it was his business duty to defend criminals no matter how guilty they may appear to be, and all clear jazz. He should just go to the class. *We are tempted to paraphrase Bob Dylan:* The price was right! So spare us the mantra-jaded Andrew Mitch that such lawyers are actually paid out of the ill-gotten wealth the Arroyo regime had bestowed on the Ampatuans' private vaults—all taxpayers' money! And why has not the Office of the Ombudsman lifted a finger to have their mansions and properties seized forthwith?

—STEPHEN L. BERNARDO,
chrisantes@yahoo.com.ph

Laughable irrelevance

"THE SERVICE (no lie, one should not copy and one should not steal or use analysis without permission or proper attribution." This statement of President Aquino regarding the plagiarism case and the Supreme Court reminds me of the rule of conduct at Rice Point: "I will not lie, cheat or steal nor tolerate it in others."

I agree with the President: there is no ambiguity in this, whether or not it is an "honest" mistake. plagiarism is a form of theft and no number of words can change that reality of those as doing. They have failed to grasp the truth.

Big cases involving injustice could have gained illustrative fame in earlier history—e.g., the Dred Scott case in the United States, a precursor of the Civil War, and the Ali v. Rowe decision in 1971, the precursor of the super-lucrative shoe-ice industry.

Perhaps some humility is needed for certain august bodies to admit mistakes when they have been made and pointed out by most of the citizenry. To do otherwise would reduce them to the laughable irrelevance.

—BALTAZAR N. MORALES,
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Japan can, why can't PH?

THE INQUIRER (Nov. 19) was excited on another opening Malaysian/Asia, an American population expert, as saying we can end up being like Malaysia if our population reaches 100 million in 40 years' time. "Either we FOLLOW grow through and unless you are able to offer the poorest economic quintile the choices that they deserve, then people will be poorer. You will be importing them; you will be more like Somalia than Thailand," he said.

I think comparing the Philippines to Somalia is a bit too much. We will become like Somalia if we thought like them and acted like them. Culturally, historically, geographically, politically, economically, technologically and religiously we are very different. And I think our country is more orderly and peaceful compared to Somalia, with all due respect to that country. It is just highly improbable that the Philippines will be like Somalia, economically speaking.

Again, here is a person blaming poverty on population growth. If population growth is the main factor for poverty and for becoming like Somalia, why does no one will refute countries whose population now are also growing that they may end up like Somalia?

I'd like to offer a different perspective. Hunger in Somalia is a society's due war more than like us. It is an oligarchy. Like ours, its land area is comparable to ours. It has fertile land. It has much less farmland area than us. Its citizens are Asians like us. They were also once divided politically. Their present population is 50 million more than the Philippines, and yet their GDP per capita is 30 times greater than that of the Philippines! Talking about repair. Why not think. In 20 years' time, when we reach the present population of Japan, we can be 30 times richer! If Japan can do it, why can't we?

—DR. CECILIO MACION,
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111 B. Gonzales St.,
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Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres
Assistant Editor Francis T.J. Dichoso

SPORTS

PH Patriots yield to Kuala Lumpur Dragons

STANDINGS	W	L
Thailand	4	0
Philippines	3	1
Singapore	1	3
Malaysia B	1	3
Malaysia A	0	4

LAST SATURDAY
(Ateneo de Manila)
Jakarta
61-69 — Indonesia
Jarvis Hayes-Pelletone
vs Philippine Patriots

By Jasmine W. Payo

IT SEEMED like the Philippine Patriots are only all their coach in Manila, but their game as well.

The visiting Patriots abandoned an embarrassing 96-81 loosing against the Kuala Lumpur Dragons in a match that more nothing the defending champions' way to the thirteen-franchise Basketball League Sunday night at the Mahu Stadium in Malaysia.

Kuala Lumpur's Filipino import Patrick Cabahug did the damage early against a Philippine side that played minus coach Louie Alas, who skipped the road game due to flu.

"This (Dragons) shot well from the outside and are somehow linked in gain enough momentum to come back," said assistant coach Regy Acbonado, who manned the sidelines along with other assistant Dipsy Ely.

The Patriots, losing their second game in a row, dropped to second at 0-3 and settle quished the top spot in the Chong Thailand Hammers (7-2) for the first time this season.

Cabahug buried 19 of his 22 points in the first half, including a 4-of-4 clip from beyond the arc, to tow the Dragons to a 45-31 lead at the break.

But players of both squads figured in several altercations in the second half, with one-man-losing in a near-brawl that had one fan throwing a bottle of water that hit guard Warren Thaiden on the head.

The fan was later identified and thrown out of the venue as he cheered quarters.

League officials fined the Dragons with $5,000 "for not safely securing the viewing" the ABL's official site reported yesterday.

Kuala Lumpur's American import Stakes Miller led with 24 points, 19 rebounds and six blocks.

With their poor defense and numerous turnovers, the Patriots trailed by as many as 26 points, 82-57, with 6:01 minutes left in the fourth period.

Import Gladstone Wright carried the offensive load for the Patriots with 35 points.

The scores:

KUALA LUMPUR (96 – Nilo) 19 Cabahug 22, Ushirone 20, Langgong 12, Hamzah 1, Ali 7, Rahmah 0, Ngi 5, Ramadhan 0.

PHILIPPINES (81 – Wright 35, Blatza 16, Ubi 10, Alvo 10, Fernando 4, Pinder 3, Rosco 0, Tabanguay 3, Gonzalez 0, Orgena 0, Ocampo 0)

Quarters: 29-12, 45-31, 71-49, 81-81

Francisco, Thai vow KO victory

By Dennis U. Rivas
Inquirer Libre

BOXING KAN, THAILAND—Expect a thriller of a bout when Filipino-pride Dionisio Francisco collides today with Thai veteran Duangpetch Kidangyen for the WBA interim super flyweight title at a makeshift ring on an open baseball field here.

Francisco (19-0-1, 13 KOs), who tagged a 4-9 underdog by oddsmakers, and the 30-year-old Kidangyen (32-1-1, 21 KOs), lowered through the weight-in ordained by an appointment reward which applauded as both fighters weighed in at 115 pounds. Among those who witnessed the ceremony were WBA supervisor Tsuyoshi Tomiyoshi of Japan and judges Guillermo Perez Pineda of Panama, Peter Sam-yuk of Korea and Japanese Takeshi Shimakawa.

Also present were Samed by the Bell Promotions president and Francisco manager Hawaiian, Thai international promoter Rokkit Panthanapan and Games and Amusements chief of Boxing Dr. Mintor Cruz.

Both fighters promised quick endings to the 12-round bout which will determine the mandatory challenger of the WBA belt being held by Ghanaian Hugo Cazares.

"They fought tall for Thailand by the fifth round, after studying the tapes of his previous bouts, I think he is very bendable," said a confident Kidangyen, flanked by his manager Aspong Sornsiam.

Francisco was confident.

"We're on the same boat, I also love to knock him out. Let's wait and see because I'm ready for anything," said Francisco, whose counterdose style has baffled long reports.

Vargas eyes Ariza to help Olympic bets

By Ronnie Nathaniel C.

BOOSTED BY the boxers' success at the recent Asian Games in Guangzhou, China, in which the Philippines won 1 gold, 1 silver and 1 bronze medal, Amateur Boxing Associations of the Philippines president Ricky Vargas wants to tap the services of Alex Ariza, Manny Pacquiao's strength and conditioning coach, to help prepare PH spiritedness for the 2012 Olympic qualifying tournaments.

ARIZA

Vargas told the inquirer that boosters desire to seek Ariza's help in strengthening the shoulders of the PH prize boxers in their quest for slots in the London Olympics, the shop also plans to "infuse total use coaches to training schools overseas or bring in a coach from abroad."

Although Vargas said they had identified no foreigner coach, they were "re-thinking." the idea even to be loaned toward "bringing in a coaching expert to Manila for three weeks to conduct workshops for our coaches together with our boxers."

Vargas disclosed that they also plan to send some boxers overseas for training and had received invitations from Mongolia and Japan among other countries. Vargas said that which he avoids Filipino boxers abroad be careful "like to make sure that when they get there our coaches learn something too."

He said the Abap will soon select boxers "to prepare for the qualifiers for the Olympics," with the first event to be held in Kazakhstan.

Archers end Lions' 19-game win run

SAN Beda's Garvo Lanoy loses the ball as he dashes against La Salle's Ryzza Andrada (right) during last night's PCCL match.

By Cachet F. Tugas

AN UNDERMANNED La Salle squad pulled off a feat no team had done all season: Beat San Beda.

The Archers finished with a flourish to humble the Lions, 64-74, last night in the Philippine Collegiate Champions League quarterfinals at the FEU Flying V Arena in San Juan.

The Archers stopped the Lions' 19-game winning streak during back to the latter's midseason NCAA title run this season.

Clean up in the dead after missing several key players and losing its top scorer early due to fouls, the Archers drew strength from rookie Jordan Tampus, who spelled a 16-1 run in a four-minute stretch in the fourth period to allow La Salle to pull away from eight points.

The Archers ran up a semifinal duel with the Adamson Falcons, who early on crushed a cold-shooting the Eastern U squad, 75-37.

Jhunel Lizada shot 16 points that went with six assists, while Lester Alvarez and William Sáenz had 12 and 11 respectively for the Falcons, who held the Easterners to just 30 percent shooting.

Tampus fired 10 of his 16 points in the final period, while Almond Vosotros contributed 13 points aside from the stellar quarterbacking job down the stretch.

NCAA Most Valuable Player Jiovani Jaalon headed 12 points as he struggled to make his mark on the game, despite the early departure of Fortbound and Philip Paredes due to fouls.

LA SALLE (64 – Tampus 16, Adkins 14, Vosotros 13, Mendoza 11, Sangalang 10, Andrada 2, Dizon 0, Ramos 0, Ramirez 0, Ramos 0, Ramirez 0, Ramos 0)

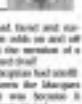
SAN BEDA (74 – Lizada 16, Alvarez 12, Sáenz 11, Jaalon 12, Ramos 7, Sangalang 5, Andrada 2, Dizon 0, Ramos 0, Ramirez 0, Ramos 0, Ramirez 0, Ramos 0)

Quarters: 19-8, 34-18, 52-37, 64-74

Masses thumb down Marquez agenda

BARE EYE

Recah Trinidad



MIDWAY bothering to look in the misery the holding man-himself like-quiet has again made a tribal chant into the future—and therefore should get an immediate shot at the fate of down it.

Well, Juanito may have indeed gained some solid points during that refereeing bout in the MGM Grand last Saga Saturday night, which he rose from the dead, tainted the galloping ride, and stopped late gallant, hard working bar.

So what did Marquez, 37, do the moment he was declared winner and still owed fight-weight champ?

Marquez called out undisputed world greatest he-ground king Manny Pacquiao.

* * *

Nothing wrong, that sure is to expected.

It was all in the Marquez Saturday night recipe even before the encounter: he shot boxer with Michael Buffer's voice indeed.

Marquez was likewise expected to do a hard sell of himself, which he did.

Problem was Marquez spins dropped out of boxing.

Remember when he flew all the way to Manila after that controversial split-decision loss to Pacquiao?

* * *

So, Marquez did not call Pacquiao a coward.

But in shouting to the world that the Pacman was avoiding him like a plague, Juanito made another dreadful slip.

For one, how would one want

champion, who had faced and surpassed the greatest odds on and off the ring, comes at the mention of a puny, self-proclaimed itself.

Truth is that if Pacquiao had smelt easily stumbled down the Marquez opponent shoved, it was because it would be bad business, indeed.

* * *

Pacquiao afraid?

As he had obviously searched Pacquiao's latest epic, the complaint of Miss Minnesota Antonette Klimpert to earlier in the month, Marquez could have used better sense.

Pacquiao (awaiting an opponent, maybe Mayweather Jr.) has had repeatedly toppled to save pernicious boxers, sets sort of silly to put itself by.

Pacquiao sure complies to the point.

If he had feared that meeting with Marquez, it was not because of the man.

Pacquiao feared for losing itself, he was honestly afraid the Mexican boxer would knock out in the action.

* * *

Of course, you don't have to be an expert or a serious student of boxing to realize Marquez has been stuck in the dark mud of yesterday's despair to his head dance of the Pharaoh.

Marquez has indeed shone with both class and craft in his defense of the world 130 lbs. crown against the pesky Juanito.

That means he wasn't in some way still be at par with Pacquiao—but only if the Filipino superboxer were still a lightweight.

Pacquiao and Marquez have since packed ways.

Pacquiao has assisted Jinkaharan to epic greatness and claimed himself as mightiest boxers, more counting divided.

Marquez, for his time to reveal the unknowingly scarers, was a complete pinochlight absurdity.

He was for and dull, an odd, cerebral silent in that match against Floyd Mayweather Jr.

* * *

Of course, there's an awful argument to debate and case on Marquez' agenda for the Pacman.

It stretches back the morning after in the wet weather area where most of the most avid boxing fans this side of Bermuda hold court, established a connecting Nedoz Marquez.

Marquez never after expressed during that Monday morning poll.

The camera were one in thinking down the Marquez agenda for the Pacman due to one dreadful possibility.

Pic did remember what Freddie Roach had said that Pacquiao would kill Marquez.

Many among his adoring countrymen did not want to see Pacquiao with blood in his hands.

Smart Gilas competing in Dubai tilt

By Jane Meneses

DESERT CLUB: Filipinos took a month-long break before going through the final stretch of its preparations for the 2011 Fiba Asia Championship.

SF coach Ogie Troncoso said the Dubai International Tournament in January will kick off the team's itinerary for next year.

After flashing stitch in the Guangzhou Asian Games, Smart Gilas is on mission and will resume practice after Christmas, tentatively on Dec. 27.

The tough Dubai joust, which allows three leagues of undrafted heights, is scheduled Jan. 20 to 29. The RP-Six capped third place in the same tournament last year.

Troncoso has also penciled a foreign training in Serbia either in February or March before the Nationals compete in the Fiba Asia Champions Cup.

Considering Undrafted 6'9 Filipinas officials are lobbying for the hosting of the Champions Cup, a tournament for the best club teams in the continent, come April or May.

Troncoso said the William Jones Cup will be the last training step for Smart Gilas prior to the 26th Asia Championship, which offers only a single ticket for the region in the 2012 London Olympics.

The SBP-Six also placed its bid on the Asian championship after Fiba Asia earlier skipped the hosting from Lebanon.

Lopez downs Kimura, gains Phinma main draw

LOCAL BET Louie Alexander Lopez advanced to the main draw after handling out Yuko Kimura of Japan, 6-3, 6-2, in the Phinma International Junior Tennis Championship Week 2 girls division yesterday at the Rizal Memorial Tennis Center.

Lopez joins other Philippine hopefuls led by Clarice Patrimonio, Tzarina Pigtoyo, Maria Gaudencio and Marinel Bulos in the main draw starting today where the Filipinas aim to do better than their Week 1 showing.

Local junior seniors Jayvee Mendoza, Jacob Lagonoy, Akin Sy and Kim Sarcia also earned valid seed berths in the main draw of the boys event.

The Filipinas failed to advance past the quarterfinals in the girls' singles and the semifinals in girls' doubles in Week 1 action.

Michel Datu won of the United States, Japan's Kimmori Chimura and Chinese Taipei's Yi-Chi Ma also climbed main draw slots after downing opposite opponents yesterday.

Chimura dominated local bet Katrina Ortera, 6-0, 6-3.

Ami edged Japan's Mami Hakada, 6-4, 6-4, while Yi turned back Bunin's Yulia Sedlikova, 6-2, 6-1.

In the boys division, South Korea's Jong Jun Jung edged Thailand's Tewachai Techakul, 6-1, 6-4, and Thailand's Napat Sawatdee handily prevailed over Korea's Ji Sun Hwan, 6-1, 6-2, to advance to the main draw.

Liechtenstein's Kathleen Vee Deichmann topped fourth girls singles finals 1 owners, while Thailand's Buchanon Kitchaiyaroon ruled the boys title.

Jasmine W. Payo

TENNIS CHAMP Kathleen Vee Deichmann of Liechtenstein displays her championship plate after ruling the Phinma International Junior Tennis Championship at the Rizal Memorial Tennis Center. Witcher are ITF referee Manuel Tiniana, tournament director Louie Wallace and Phinma vice president Sirake Lopez.

Federer shows who's best

ROGER! Federer lifts the trophy while losing finalist Rafael Nadal applauds. AFP

LONDON—Roger Federer gave Rafael Nadal fifth chance to consult a challenge to the 22nd meeting between the greatest players of all time, retaining his ATP season-ending title, 6-3, 3-6, 6-1, Sunday.

Federer won an incredible 92 per cent of the points played on his first serve in the final of the ATP World Tour Finals, and lost only 13 points on serve to the entire match.

"I was able to stay offensive. Rallies were never that long," said Federer, who has also won the season-ending tournament in Houston and Shanghai. "I think that kind of counts, I suppose for this."

Nadal, the top-ranked Spaniard who won the French Open, Wimbledon and the US Open this year, was able to break Federer once in the second set, but he appeared to run out of steam after that.

On Saturday, Nadal spent more than three hours and three sets beating Andy Murray to reach the final of the tournament for the first time.

The win cut Nadal's career record to 14-8 against the second-ranked Swiss. In 'Grand Slam' finals, Nadal is 5-2 against Federer, but Federer has more lessons Nadal all three times they have faced each other in the final tournament of the season.

"I know it doesn't take anything away from his great season, because it was magnificent. But no, obviously this was a huge tournament. Winning the last one against top-10 players is very special," Federer said.

Federer has won a record 16 Grand Slam titles, the last coming at this year's Australian Open. He and Nadal have combined to take 21 of the past 23 majors. AP

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Sharks, Bulls arrange title showdown

DEFENDING CHAMPION Manila and Senoy's resilient Batangas hammered out contending wins yesterday to forge a title showdown in the Dunkin' Donuts Baseball Philippines Series '08 at the Rizal Memorial Baseball Stadium in Taguig City.

The Manila Sharks, showing stellar efforts from Ace Jon Robles and Jenifer Pinero, shamed the Cebu Dolphins, 13-3, after the Batangas Bulls pounced on the ever-prone Alabang Tigers, 7-6.

Robles and Pinero sparkled for a four-run fourth-inning binge for the Harbour Centre-backed Manila batters, who peppered the Dolphins with 10 hits.

Robles, after giving up two one-run homers, belted a four-bagger to score Nino Tiro and Pinero, who delivered an RBI single to score Francis Candido and Marvin Bilog. Dad gave Manila a 9-4 lead.

Batangas and Manila must draw best-of-three championship series on Dec. 11, a rematch of the Series V finals showdown.

The Bulls cut on a 7-2 lead after scoring three runs in the fourth inning, where Cris Beatson hit an RBI double, before scoring on an error along with Teddy Lanzilotta.

Nino Jimez and Alberto De Leon had relievers matched but the two more errors by Alabang for a 4-2 cushion.

Batangas coach Randy Shaw was bemused with the rules.

"This is the worst game we have played in this series," said Shaw. "I told them that they are too relaxed thinking that it will be an easy game even at the start of the game."

The Tigers rolled behind Martinez and Lazard, who delivered a pair of singles before scoring on a catching error in the outfield in the eighth. Cybill P. Tupas

SPORTSWATCH

90 fights in PCC derby today

THE CEBU, of leading gamefowl breeders meets today at the Pasay City Cockpit via the ₱150,000-added Derbyhan 16-stag derby featuring more than 90 fights.

Today's competition, the third of six championship rounds, will be led by participants from Batangas, Laguna, Cavite, Quezon Province, Bicol and regular PCC cockers.

Ralph Joey Sy-Chua's team one of thirty contenders including Jeffie, posting nine wins and one loss, good for ultimate runner-up finish.

The last day of 'Bahalatan' at PCC is set Friday while the grand finals will be on Dec. 4 at the Araneta Coliseum (with lights).

For inquiries, call 8937.8801-5831/46 and 09067105.

BGC run: Sabal, Magalian rule

VETERANS' GENERAL Sabal and Ahmed Magalian led the roster of winners in the Bonifacio Global City in Taguig yesterday.

Sabal finished with a time of one hour, 16 minutes and 32 seconds in the men's open 21-K run, while Magalian finished now the ladies' edition 1:29.47.

Other winners were Kimberly Bermudez and Grace Jacquelyn Lim, Roger Dando and Kristine Grace Jimz, and Frank Indiquez and Janette Lucero (10K).

The BGC run, for the benefit of some walks in Taguig under the Bahayan, Green and Gawad Tagalog Program of Fort Bonifacio Development Foundation, Inc.

QC Int'l Marathon traffic advisory

ORGANIZERS OF the 2nd Quezon City International Marathon, set Dec. 5 starting at the Quezon Memorial Circle, have issued the event's traffic advisory to avoid any inconvenience.

From midnight to 12 noon of race day, traffic will be diverted from the QC Circle, portions of Commonwealth Avenue headed towards Fairview, GP Garcia Road, University Avenue and the University of the Philippines Diliman academic oval, said Ronnie Nicart Hernandez, chair of the organizing Executive Planning Club Philippines Inc. (Runner) Events are 5K, 10K, 21K and 42K.

Hernandez also announced that race packets can be claimed at the covered gym behind the SF College of Human Kinetics until today.

Ferrer-Palines tops Orchard's Founders Cup

JUAN FERRER and partner Alejandro Peñero, Jr. got in a pair of solid rounds as the Palmer and Player's courses and came away with a combined net of 28 under 130 points to capture the overall championship in the 14th Founders Cup at the Orchard Golf and Country Club in Imusmarino, Cavite over the weekend.

Both 17-handicappers, Ferrer and Palines turned in an impressive net 68 under 90 points under the handicap 18-hole Stableford scoring system at the Palmer layout, then annexed a net 11-under 47 in the four-ball with handicap format when they dubbed in the Player course for that winning 137 output.

Paul Salvador and Tim Salvador III, both single handicappers, took the high prize under the gross title as they posted a 72 points including a great 36-point effort at Palmer and a 31 at Player in the 36-hole tournament of the club's premier annual club championship.

Bert Ballot and Jack Bacon sustained their superb first round charge of a net nine-under 35 at Palmer with a net seven-under 92 at the Player in the second round to fashion out a three-point margin in Class B with a net 36-under 184 aggregate.

Don Estrañan and Willie Bess took runner-up honors with a net seven-under 176 total, including 47 points at Palmer and 45 points at Player.

Class B crown

Francisco delos Santos and Constantino Serrano topped the Class B crown with a net 28-under 124 from a pair of net 13-under cards as they held off Ronnie Chaparra, Gareth McInnes, who posted a net 23-under 125, including a net 14-under round at Player.

Roberto Calingo and Seth Sedurna took the Class C plum with a net 21-under 128, as they shot on a net 11-under 49 points at Palmer, beating Che Corey Sy-Joey Constantino tandem.

Ricardo Ordiales and Serge Sijao also cruised to the victory in Class D, firing a net 13-under 85 at Palmer and a net 11-under 47 at Player for a 132 and a seven-point win over Danilo Hernandez and Jesie Arroyo.

Homer Angulayan and Anthony Angulo leaned on their net 12-under 60 points at Player to post a 119 and nip Butch Arguelles and Flordeo Gomez, who had a 47 at Player, in the scoreboard to rule the Seniors Division of the tournament which marked more than 50 milestones, including two hoarse-one inches to San Francisco via Philippine Airlines.

NEW Jersey Nets' Kris Humphries (right) blocks a shot by Portland Trail Blazers' LaMarcus Aldridge during the third quarter of their match.

Nuggets eclipse Suns; Pacers up

DENVER—JR Smith scored a season-high 38 points as the Denver Nuggets overcame the absence of Carmelo Anthony to hold off the Phoenix Suns, 104-100, Sunday in the highest scoring game in the NBA this season.

Chauncey Billups returned to the lineup after missing three games with a sprained right wrist and had 22 points and eight assists for the Nuggets.

Anthony was feeling ill Friday against Chicago but still played and hit the winner in the final seconds. Sunday he hauled just 2-for-8 before sitting down for good.

Jason Richardson led the Suns to Larry Nance Jr.'s ninth 20-point season. Steve Nash had 19 points and 11 assists. But he missed a three-pointer with 17.0 seconds left that would have tied the game.

Al Lou Amgoka, Ray Jabbar had 20 points and 12 rebounds as Indiana got its first victory over the Los Angeles Lakers, 95-92, at Staples Center.

Danny Granger added 18 points for the Pacers, who had lost 11 straight to the Lakers on the road since Feb. 16, 1998, shortly before Staples Center opened.

Jalen Rose scored 22 of his 41 points in the second half for the Lakers, but he missed two tying three-point attempts in the final seconds.

At New Orleans, Shaun Livingston scored 17 of his 20 points in the second half as San Antonio overcame a 17-point deficit to hand New Orleans its first home loss of the season, 109-95.

Tim Duncan scored 21 points and Richard Jefferson added 20 for the Spurs, who rushed for a franchise-best 7.0 mark on the road, set in the 2006-07 season. AP

LBC Cup: Union downs Dolphins, sweeps group

By Cedrif F. Eupio

UNION ATTACKED its members in the second half to smash Dolphins, 3-0, Sunday night and complete a sweep of its group assignments in the United Football League LBC Cup at the Novaliches Field in Pantabangan.

Already assured of a quarterfinal berth, Union ripped the game open in the early minutes of the second half with skipper Melvin Lozanes opening the scoring with a long-range effort in the 52nd minutes, before Arsenio Cuaso struck twice in a two-minute span.

Substitutes Ismael Mabasi and Joel Vita joined the act with goals in the 86th and 87th minutes marks, respectively for Union, which pounced on the sending off of Dolphins striker Greg Calawood 20 minutes into the second half.

Handled by Umpiaseo coach Mike Fenner, Union paraded two promising teenage players in winger Ben Gonzales and Papa Gyasi Gyeasmo from Bandu, who missed prohibition to the Dolphins defense.

In a Group B clash, Sunnie Pogi scored two goals as Nomads fought back from a goal down to crush Inter Manila, 4-2, and clinch a quarterfinal berth.

Pogi cancelled out Rodelio Pilot-cando's 26th minute goal with his own marker in the 35th minute, before netting his second at the stroke of halftime.

With their third strip, the Nomads have nine points from four matches to take top spot in their group ahead of the Stallions, who have seven points from three games.

In a battle of eliminated teams, Japan FC erased a two-goal deficit in the second half and came away with a 3-2 win over Green Archers Otton Pesigh.

Nueva Ecija paces Srs flight in Fil-Am golf

WHY PAY

SAN JOSE CITY—Nueva Ecija ruled the first half of the Seniors Flights II and G Unit (Division) of the 61st Fil-Am Golf Invitational Amateur Championship played at the Baguio Country Club and Camp John Hay here.

Head Junior mated 36 points on 39 reading in the 18, scoring seven to pace the Square 8 Compass Golf of Nueva Ecija, which garnered 548 points with two games to go to lead the Seniors Flight 5 (ten).

Isabela Golf Club is second with 529 points, followed by Tuba Benguet Golf Club with 154. Manila Golf Club was fourth with 515.

Square 8 Compass also ruled the Flight G (Jun) with 156 points. Marlito Ngaoja led the Nueva Ecija team with 39 points followed by Gabriel Nunez with 36.

Team Gas Scapes was second in the 10-team field with 128 points while the Summit Point Golf Club found was third with 107. Frank Gimena, Inquirer Northern Luzon

DR. JAMES Tan, president of Union Christian College, makes the ceremonial toss during the season opening of the UCC High School basketball league at the UCC gym in Quezon City. Other participants are UC Christian Academy, St. Peter, Philadelphia and Philippine Institute of Quezon City

Go Army wins Marho Classic pulling away

OUTSTANDING Juvenile Go Army easily seized the lead starting for home and won pulling in another veteran Jonathan Hernandez on Sunday in the 10th San Miguel Beer Marho Cup Classic, capping a resounding afternoon for his stable at the Santa Ana Park in Pasig, Cavite.

The 4-year-old Go Army sent took the late-fading Hesame Sena with 300 meters to go in the 2000-m event and came home about six lengths ahead of runner-up Native Land with a time of 2 minutes and 36.4 seconds.

Go Army, a progeny of Mr. Barter out of Peppone who went undefeated as a juvenile in 2008, won the top prize of P1 million for owner Sherlie Ignacio as he returned to the big stage in grand style after a long layoff.

It was a big day for the star Ignacio stable, which also struck earlier in the day through Ol Amazing in the Philkoseis Juvenile Fillies and Gamebirds in the 1600 Colt Mile.

Dismounting won in top by Hernandez, also under Hernandez in the 1500-m Juvenile Fillies, beating seven other 2-year-olds and taking the top prize of P600,000. He dashed 1:36 seconds.

Win race later, Gamebirds, ridden by jockey John Paul Morales, struck with the Colt Mile featuring outstanding pick and flavor of the four-contender Sea Rap and two others in a scuffling second with a time of 1:43.5.

Like Dismounting, Gamebirds bagged P600,000.

Tenderfoot was captured the 1600 Filly Mile in 1:45.5. Barkley topped the 1000-m Juvenile Colt in 1:45 and returns $76 Magic cool, the 1000-m Igorot title for the third straight race under Fernando Raquel to round out the afternoon's top highlights were that climaxed the racing festival organized by Marho and backed by PCSO and Philkoseis.

Dagupan hosts intercities, municipalities rapid chess

DAGUPAN CITY will host the 2010 National Intercities and Municipalities Rapid Chess Championship on Dec 18 and 19 at the People's Auditorium.

A joint undertaking of the National Chess Federation of the Philippines and the Dagupan City government, the competition is expected to assure the country's top players representing selected cities and municipalities.

NCFP president Prospero "Bambi" Pichay and NCFP secretary general and Dagupan City Mayor Benjamin "Benjie" Lim Jr. have been invited to attend the opening ceremony.

Pichay is expected to make the ceremonial throw with Dagupan City Mayor Benjamin S. Lim and city administrator Wadeson Lim.

"It will be a good opportunity for Manila-based players to come and visit Dagupan," said Pichay, who topped WCFP executive director Willie Marlow to coordinate the preparations.

The winning team will get P70,000, the runner-up P50,000 and third place P30,000. Individual gold medalist board-runs to five will receive P2,000 each.

Registration fee is P5,000 per team. For inquiries, call NCFP (02) 8927294, Atoko (09392390924), Jhan Perez (09088269674) or Ana Mendoza (09255127006.

Anton, team dominate Tarlac hill races

CARLOS ANTON dominated the fourth and fifth rounds of the Hillclimb Championship held recently in San Jose, Tarlac, winning both day and night stages of the course.

Anton led his team to a one-two triple double, with Allie Constantino and Frankie Domingo winning both legs in their respective Group 4 and Group 2 classes.

The fourth round was held in two separate day stages while the fifth leg raced into the night, going to the Monumento de Tarlac.

All the stages in both rounds were blisteringly quick, we were on the fastest on fourth gear so one point on that single have road," Anton said after clocking in at 2:10.27 on the three-kilometer second stage for an average speed of over 120 kph.

Constantino and Domingo extended their lead on the group 4 and 2 championships and are almost sure of clinch the titles.

In group 3, Baguio driver Rainney Santos won leg 4 but finished a disappointing fifth in the ninth stage.

Drag racer Jessie Magat placed third in his inaugural hillclimb race in group 5 during the night stage. Ed Pesubayo won both legs in group 6.

CONQUISTADOR. Antonio Domingo flip winners

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Ivler brings case to UN

By Julie M. Aurelio

ROAD rage suspect Jason Ivler has accused the Philippine government of violating his human rights before the United Nations.

In a complaint sent via courier last week to the Committee on Civil and Political Rights of the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva, Switzerland, Ivler said he experienced "inhumane and degrading treatment" at the hands of local authorities.

The five-page complaint, a copy of which was given to the Inquirer, went on to cite several violations of Ivler's rights, which, according to him, were guaranteed under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights to which the Philippines was a signatory.

He asked the UN to "direct the Republic of the Philippines to take corrective measures to protect and respect [his] human rights."

Ivler has been detained at the Quezon City jail since April for allegedly killing Renato Victor Eballe Jr., the son of a former Palace official, during a traffic altercation in Quezon City on Nov. 16, 2009.

He was identified through the diplomatic license plates of the Honda CRV which he was driving when he shot Eballe Jr. The license plates were assigned to his stepfather, British diplomat Stephen Pollard.

Alleged abuses

Ivler also accused the agents of the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) of violating his human rights when they "kicked, punched and physically battered" him as they were arresting him.

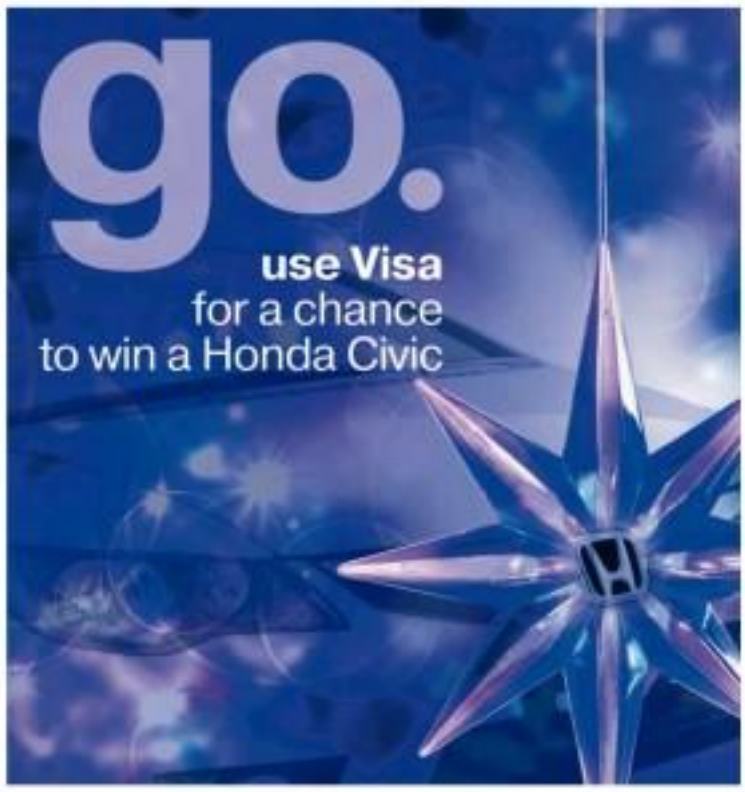
Also included in his complaint was the Quezon City judge handling his case, Judge Alexander Bahay, whom he said ordered his

MORE ON A16

DRESS REHEARSAL
Students of Bonifacio Memorial Elementary School dressed as Katipuneros rehearse their number for today's celebration of Bonifacio Day in Caloocan City. EDDY JOSE

DID YOU KNOW

Today is the 147th birth anniversary of Andres Bonifacio. Born on Nov. 30, 1863, Bonifacio is remembered on his birthday, rather than on the date of his death, on his most heroic and iconic... Zuhairi Misuari, Inquirer Research



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Lim stands firm on orders banning 'kuliglig,' pedicabs

By Jaymee T. Gamil

WITH JUST ONE day to go before the Manila City government implements two executive orders which would ban pedicabs and the kuliglig (motorized pedicab) from the city's major thoroughfares and national roads, Mayor Alfredo Lim is showing no signs of backing down.

Earlier, members of the drivers-operators-fabricators club or Kalipdig Drivers ng Maynila (Alnapedka-Manila) asked the Supreme Court to stop Lim from implementing his Executive Order Nos. 16 and 17 which, according to them, would deprive them of their means of livelihood.

The two executive orders, issued by Lim in September, will take effect on Dec. 1.

During the weekend, Lim reiterated that the two three-wheeled vehicles would be banned from the major thoroughfares in the city although they would be allowed to operate in side streets and residential areas.

He said the orders were to response to increasing complaints from the public about the traffic congestion being caused by the kuliglig and pedicabs.

A closer look at E.O. No. 16, however, states that "...with the exception of pedicabs, all kuligligs shall be banned from operating on all streets in the city and only tricycles or engine-powered vehicles duly registered with the Land Transportation Office shall be allowed to operate as operable arena."

In their petition for a TRO and writ of preliminary injunction petition, Alnapedka asked that both of Lim's orders be nullified as they claimed that he did not authority to execute or implement those orders.

Alnapedka, meanwhile, found a supporter in Bayan Muna Rep. Walden Bello. Bello's spokesman also said that it was baseless of the city government to take away their source of livelihood, especially with the holiday season approaching.

Lim said the city government has other more important things to do than to do so by the high court.

Jailed for the wrong crime

GERARDO BONG, former Pandacan police investigator who was sentenced to 35 years in prison and is about to be released, deserved his fate.

Not for being an accomplice of those convicted of the Vizconde massacre but for robbing the dead.

Bong, who was assigned to investigate the crime scene, looted the Vizconde household.

He didn't know any of the young men sentenced for the massacre and rape, mostly low ranking accused Hubert Webb.

Bong burned the bloodied bed sheets and other things because he was a simpleton.

The cop from Samar thought that he could cover his crime of looting the dead by burning the evidence.

Bong was found guilty of the wrong crime.

• • •

President Noy stopped the grant of franchises to operate gambling casinos since Day 1.

But a franchise was given to a foreign company, Pacific by the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. (Pagcor) recently.

Early this month, three Pagcor officials went to South Korea upon the invitation of Choi Yoon SIL, Paraiso president.

Two weeks after their return, **Ivanna was allegedly given a franchise to operate casinos anywhere in the country.**

What took place in South Korea?

• • •

A Pagcor official has reportedly bought a house at a ritzy subdivision in Quezon City worth P45 million.

Where did he get the money to buy such an expensive house?

• • •

Rampant smuggling is taking place at the ports of Cebu, Davao, General Santos and Cagayan de Oro.

A high official is allegedly in cahoots with the smugglers, with Customs Commissioner Lito Alvarez out of the loop, my sources say.

The goods being smuggled in are rice, sugar, Japanese and Korean cars, general merchandise and used clothes (ukay-ukay or ukay-ukay).

• • •

For every 20-foot container of sugar or rice, P15,000 goes to the high official, my sources say.

A 40-foot container full of electronic items can go for as much as P35,000.

Assorted general merchandise in a 20-foot container pays P5,000, say the sources.

There's part of the breakdown:

In November alone, 100 40-foot containers filled with not more smuggled into Cebu port.

At the Davao port, 200 20-foot containers of rice, 12 40-foot containers of sugar and now and then 20 40-footers have been smuggled in since October.

From September to November, 350 shipments of rice to 20-footers and factory-fresh Korean and Japanese cars in 12 40-footers were smuggled into General Santos port.

• • •

And how is Customs Commissioner Alvarez taking all this?

One of my sources says Alvarez doesn't have power over his subordinates since he can't reshuffle them.

The infighting within the Aquino administration has **rendered Alvarez useless** at the Customs bureau.

Alvarez was appointed based on the recommendation of the "Galay Group" identified with defeated vice presidential candidate Mar Roxas.

But the Galay group is doomed by being teamed not by a rival faction, the "Samar group," **identified with Vice President** Jojo Binay, and the independents identified with Executive Secretary Jojo Ochoa, a close friend of the President's.

BEAUTY FROM GARBAGE
People gather around Andy Mendoza (right) as he makes flowers and plants from discarded soft drink bottles. He sells his work to passersby, mostly foreigners, not far a walk on Roxas Boulevard in Manila.

Elderly man collars 30-something thief

By Julie M. Aurelio

AGE DOESN'T matter to the senior — especially when it comes to chasing the man who stole his cell phone.

Ambet, his victim, 62-year-old Victorio Cheng, chased him on E. Rodriguez Jr. Boulevard after Mohamad allegedly snatched his cell phone.

Initial investigation showed that Cheng, a retired employee and resident of Baguio City was walking on the street at around 2 p.m. on Sunday.

The victim was holding his cell phone when Mohamad suddenly appeared and seized it from him.

After his initial surprise, the senior citizen chased after the thief but several meters until he caught up with him.

The two then grappled for possession of the cell phone.

Policemen who happened to be on patrol saw the commotion and arrested the thief.

Teenager drowns in Antipolo river; police blame death on liquor, horseplay

By Hiro Culeja

A 14-YEARS-OLD girl drowned in a river in Antipolo City after one of her friends playfully pushed her in the water.

Members of the Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) recovered the body of Desiree Lund at around 3:30 a.m. yesterday, according to city police chief, Senior Supt. Manuel Pina.

Lund was a resident of Barangay Inarawan in the city.

On Sunday night, residents near the river alerted the Coast Guard about four teenagers who reported-ly drowned in the Antilan River in Barangay Bagong Nayon.

Three of the teens were rescued unharmed by other residents but Lund was swept away by the strong river current.

Coast Guard rescuers searched for her overnight to no avail. They finally found her body yesterday morning.

An initial police investigation showed that Lund and her friends had been drinking at the riverbank on Sunday night when they started pushing each other playfully into the water.

Unfortunately, four of them, including Lund, did not know how to swim.

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Manila police take two robbers out

By Jeannette I. Andrade

TWO barely tattooed men who took P75,000 in cash and two diskettes from an establishment were killed on Sunday morning in a shootout with policemen in Manila.

The slain men have yet to be identified, according to the police.

One was described by Manila Police District (MPD) homicide investigators to be in his late 20s, at least 5'7" tall while the other was in his early 30s and 5'9" in height, both had numerous tattoos all over their bodies.

The two were dressed in white T-shirts worn over denim pants. Police said they suspected the two were members of the Wanay Wanay robbery gang.

In his report, MPD Station Seven Chief Supt. Romeo Tenebro said the suspects, the police is showed ₱40 p.m. on Sunday on Gagalangin Street near the corner of Imus Ave.

Tenebro said Alvin Cruz and Salgado Bunting were manning the Bulwang Lechon Manok stand in the area when two men approached them and at gunpoint, divested them of the establishment's earnings of ₱75,000. They also took two wanted check-

Ivler brings...

From page A11

ernador to the city jail even though his warrants, which he executed during a shootout with NBI agents, had yet to hold.

According to the resolution of the UN Human Rights Council and Promote Human the UN Committee on Civil and Political Rights addresses "consistent patterns of gross and reliably attested violations" of human rights worldwide.

Any complaints or communications alleging a pattern of gross violations is admissible unless it violates certain criteria.

Twin blasts kill top Iran nuke scientist; Israel agents blamed

TEHRAN – Twin blasts in Iran's capital killed a prominent nuclear scientist and wounded another on Monday, and state media said the reports they promptly accused Israeli agents on motorbikes of attaching the bombs to their cars.

"In a criminal terrorist act, the agents of the Zionist regime attacked two prominent university professors who were on their way to work," the website of Iran's state television and radio reported, referring to archfoe Israel.

"Dr. Majid Shahriari was killed and his wife was injured. Dr. Fereydoun Abbasi and his wife were injured," the report said.

Fars news agency said the assailants were targeted in two different locations by men on motorcycles who approached their vehicles and attached bombs to their cars.

Shahriari was a member of the nuclear engineering department of Shahid Beheshti University in northern Tehran, according to the official IRNA news agency.

Abbasi held a PhD in nuclear physics and did nuclear research at the defence university, the headline news website Mashreghnews said.

The 52-year-old was "one of the few specialists who can operate isotope," and had been a member of the elite Revolutionary Guards since Iran's Islamic revolution in 1979.

Shahriari was a researcher on the Iranian project, or Iran-Resources-Right for Experimental Science and Applications for the Middle East, a regional organisation for scientific cooperation, other reports said.

In January, Masoud Ali Mohammadi, another Iranian academic scientist involved with the Iranian project, was killed in a bomb attack which Tehran blamed on "masterminds" in the pay of Israel and the United States.

"The issue of the assassination of two Shahid Beheshti University professors is currently under investigation and its results will be announced," deputy Tehran governor Jafar Ali Shadfa told IRNA news agency.

"These assassinations were not personal and I think these assassinations are different from the previous assassinations, but we are still investigating it," he said.

The reported attacks come a day after the top US military officer and the United States submit to suspicion of Iran's nuclear drive, was weighing military options in the face of Tehran's announcement it had an atomic power plant up and running.

"We've actually been thinking about military options for a significant period of time," Admiral Mike Mullen, chairman of the US joint chiefs of staff said in an interview with CNN.

Mullen said he doesn't believe that Iran's nuclear plans is for civilian use "for a second." "In fact, the information and intelligence that I've seen speak very specifically to that contrary. Iran is still very much on a path to be able to develop nuclear weapons, including weaponizing them, putting them on a missile and being able to use them," he said.

On Saturday Iran said its first atomic power plant built by Russia in the southern city of Bushehr had begun operations, ahead of a new round of talks with Western powers over the country's controversial nuclear drive. AFP

Leslie Nielsen, romantic-hero-turned-comic, dies at 84

NIELSEN

LESLIE NIELSEN, the Canada-born actor who, in middle age, turned aside three decades of credibility in dramatic and romantic roles to make a new, far more successful career as a comic actor in films like "Airplane!" and the "Naked Gun" series, died on Sunday in Fort Lauderdale, Fla. He was 84.

According to The Associated Press, his agent, John S. Kelly, said Nielsen died in a hospital near his home in Fort Lauderdale where he was being treated for pneumonia.

Nielsen, a tall man with a matinee-idol profile, was often cast as an earnest hero at the beginning of his film career in the 1950s. He then became one of the most known roles included the stalwart spaceship captain in the science fiction classic "Forbidden Planet" (1956), the wealthy, available Southern aristocrat in "Tammy and the Bachelor" (1957) and an ocean liner captain faced with disaster in "The Poseidon Adventure" (1972).

In the 1960s and '70s, as his hair turned white and he became an even more distinguished figure, Nielsen played serious military men, government leaders and even a rock boss, appearing in miscellaneous Western and the occasional horror movie.

Then, in the low-budget, big-money-making 1980 disaster-movie parody "Airplane!" he was sent as a clueless doctor on board a possibly doomed jetliner. Cohen and audiences alike praised his deadpan iconic delivery, and his career was reborn. New York Times News Service

Edna Lorena B. Osorio

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NOT FRIENDS This Nov. 17, 2007 photo shows Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, left, with Saudi Arabia's King Abdullah, second from right, and Crown Prince Sultan. The classified diplomatic cables released by WikiLeaks said more cables showed King Abdullah repeatedly urging the United States to attack Iran to destroy its nuclear program. AP

WikiLeaks bares flood of shocking US cables

WASHINGTON—Whistleblower website WikiLeaks has unleashed a flood of US cables detailing shocking diplomatic episodes, from a nuclear standoff with Pakistan to Arab leaders urging a strike on Iran.

The leaked memos describe a Chinese government bid to back into Google; plans to reunite the Korean peninsula after the North's eventual collapse; Saudi Arabia's king call to the US bomb Iran to halt its nuclear drive.

The confidential cables, most of which date from 2007 to late February, also reveal how the State department has ordered diplomats to spy on foreign officials and even to obtain their credit card and frequent flier numbers.

The memos, released on Sunday, received closer scrutiny than usually given to such documents after the arrest in Britain of Julian Assange, the Australian editor of WikiLeaks, on a Swedish warrant issued over sex crime allegations.

Assange, 39, was released on bail Tuesday after a London court rejected prosecutors' arguments that he was a flight risk.

The Pentagon, already infuriated by the website's publication of secret Afghanistan and Iraq war logs earlier this year, unveiled new steps to prevent future leaks.

US officials had faced a tornado of criticism from governments around the world after the release of the Afghanistan war logs, which detailed allegations that Pakistan's intelligence service was supporting Taliban militants fighting US and NATO troops in Afghanistan.

The latest release of documents, which WikiLeaks said was the largest ever publication of classified military and intelligence documents, provoked a similar response.

Russia's Foreign Ministry said the cables showed US diplomats were behaving like spies, and Germany's Interior Ministry said the revelations could damage trust between countries.

The cables also revealed that Washington had secretly lobbied Berlin to accept prisoners from the US detention camp at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and that Saudi Arabia's King Abdullah had urged the US to attack Iran to destroy its nuclear program.

The New York Times, Britain's The Guardian, Germany's Der Spiegel, France's Le Monde and Spain's El Pais published the first batch of documents on Sunday, saying more would follow in the coming days.

WikiLeaks chief Julian Assange described the release as a "diplomatic history of the United States" that would contain "every major issue." Despite earning under a cyber-attack that took down its main website earlier in the day, WikiLeaks started publishing the 251,287 cables—15,652 of which are classified "secret"—from 274 US embassies around the world on a safe website (http://cablegate.wikileaks.org).

In an introduction, it painted the United States as a hyperactive superpower and attacked "the contradictions between the US' public pronouncements and what it says behind closed doors." The White House hit back, saying the release was a "reckless and dangerous action" that put lives in danger.

"To be clear: such disclosures put at risk our diplomats, intelligence professionals, and people around the world who come to the United States for assistance in promoting democracy and open governments," White House Press Secretary Robert Gibbs said in a statement.

ASSANGE

Assange has denied the release of the documents placed individuals at risk.

"As far as we are aware, and as far as anyone has ever alleged in any credible manner whatsoever, no single individual has ever come to harm as a result of anything that we have ever published," he said on Sunday.

The New York Times explained its decision to publish the cables by saying they "secure an important public interest." The newspaper said it had "taken care to exclude... information that would endanger confidential informants or compromise national security". It had consulted White House officials on sensitive issues but reserved the final decision to itself, it said.

The Guardian said all five papers had decided "neither to 'dump' the entire dataset into the public domain, nor to publish names that would endanger innocent individuals." None of the countries at the heart of the most explosive revelations had responded publicly to the leaks by late Sunday.

But one Saudi government adviser told AFP: "The whole thing is very negative."

"It's not good for confidence-building," he said on condition of anonymity.

US officials have not confirmed the source of the leaks, but suspicion has fallen on Bradley Manning, a former army intelligence agent arrested after the release of a video showing an airstrike that killed reporters in Iraq.

WikiLeaks argues that the latest document dumps—nearly 400,000 US military incident reports from 2004 to 2009—shed light on the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. AFP

WORLDBRIEFS

Major candidates call for halt to Haiti election

PORT-AU-PRINCE, HAITI—Haiti's election ended in disorder Sunday with nearly all the major presidential candidates calling for the vote to be voided over fraud and UN peacekeepers arresting "numerous incidents that marred the elections." Sunday morning found streets surging through the streets carrying torn branches and campaign posters, some protesting protesters and others declaring ballot-counting victory for their candidates. Twelve of the 18 candidates for president endorsed a joint statement denouncing the voting as fraudulent and calling on their supporters to show their anger with demonstrations against the government and the country's Provisional Electoral Council, known as the CEP. AP

Swiss voters approve foreigner deportation plan

SUISSE—Swiss voters on Sunday approved a plan to automatically deport foreigners who commit certain crimes or benefit fraud, in a significant victory for the nationalist party that pushed the proposal through against the will of the government. Some 52 percent of voters backed the proposal put forward by the nationalist Swiss People's Party. The plan was opposed by 47.1 percent of voters. A government-backed counterproposal failed. It would have required case-by-case review by a judge before an individual was deported. The government will now have to draft a law requiring automatic expulsion of foreigners found guilty of crimes such as murder, rape, drug dealing or benefit fraud. AP

Okinawa re-elects leader opposed to US base

TOKYO—Voters on the southern Japanese islands of Okinawa reelected a governor on Sunday who campaigned for the removal of an American Marine base there. Becoming a wrench into a deal between Japan and the United States to relocate the base and posing a challenge for the United States as it grapples with a response to North Korean aggression. Governor Hirokazu Nakaima, 71, had since supported the plan to transfer the base to a less populated part of Okinawa, but reversed himself after winning reelection by a landslide. While the position was less divided than that of his main opponent, who called for the base to be removed from Japan altogether, Nakaima's reelection still presents an obstacle to the Japanese-American agreement, any relocation of the base to Okinawa will require Nakaima's approval. New York Times-Asian Service

Iran boosts missile program with Nokor help

WASHINGTON—US intelligence believes Iran has obtained advanced missiles from North Korea that could strike Europe, according to US documents divulged by WikiLeaks and cited by the New York Times on Sunday.

The documents also show frustration among US officials who have been pressing for China to block shipments of missile parts from North Korea to Iran, Britain's Guardian newspaper reported.

The New York Times, citing a diplomatic cable dated Feb. 24, said "recent American intelligence assessments have concluded that Iran has obtained a cache of advanced missiles, based on a Russian design." Iran obtained 19 of the North Korean missiles, an improved version of Russia's R-27, from North Korea, the cable said, and sees "taking parts to master the technology in order to begin to build a new generation of missiles."

"The North Korean version of the advanced missile, known as the BM-25, could carry a nuclear warhead," said the newspaper, adding it had a range of more than 3,000 km.

"If fired from Iran, that range, in theory, would let its warheads reach targets as far away as Western Europe," it said, referring to other dispatches. AFP

Editor Raul G. Marcelo • Assistant Editor Corrie S. Mariano

BUSINESS

Net 'hot money' inflow breaches $3-B mark

Investments should translate into long-term, job-generating ventures

By Michelle V. Remo

THE FLOW of "hot money" into the Philippines surged further this month, breaching the $3-billion mark, as investors continued to bet on favorable economic prospects over the short term.

Data from the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas showed that the net inflow of foreign portfolio investments reached $3.02 billion.

From January to November last year, the net inflow of foreign portfolio investment reached only $972 million.

"There is significant amount of liquidity globally, and part of this liquidity is going to emerging economies like the Philippines," BSP Governor Amando Tetangco Jr. said.

Foreign investors have been placing funds in the Philippines and other developing economies in Asia because of projections that the region would continue to drive growth of the world economy.

While the increase in "hot money" inflows highlighted investors' confidence in the country, some economists said the portfolio investments would cost investors so much extra. Some could be turned into long-term, job-generating investments.

They said investments in stocks, bonds and bank instruments are short-term in nature and could serve to strengthen the peso—a development that will adversely affect exporters.

Tetangco said there should be a sustained push for investments and that there should be viable, attractive investment opportunities to make the growing liquidity more productive.

"Credit is already growing. However, we know this huge liquidity available in the system for deployment into productive activities, and so there is room for further increase in bank loans," Tetangco said.

He said there should be enough investment opportunities to encourage banks to lend more of the funds they are getting as deposits.

Tetangco is hopeful that the Aquino administration's Public-Private Partnership (PPP) program will help spur demand for and actual extension of bank loans.

IN THIS ISSUE

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■ **Vista Land** to invest P1B in masterplanned 'city' /B5

■ **PAL Holdings** H1 profit boosted by traffic hike /B7

GSIS to review global investment program

By Doris C. Dumlao

THE STATE-OWNED Government Service Insurance System is set to review its global investment program to decide whether it must bring back all the funds it invested offshore or place them in other emerging markets in Asia.

The GSIS has a $600-million exposure in global markets—a result of the pension fund's overseas diversification drive initiated in 2008.

The allotment was originally set at $1 billion, but the GSIS, under its new president Robert Vergara and chair Daniel Lacson, suspended the disbursement of the additional $400 million set by the previous board.

"The new debate will be whether we should continue with the global investment program," Vergara told the business. "We will review this whole program in the first quarter of 2011," he said, noting that the moratorium is in line with the three-year mandate given to the global fund managers now handling the GSIS' overseas exposure.

Vergara said the previous GSIS board had already given the green light to invest an additional $400 million in markets abroad. However, he said, the new management decided to suspend the deployment

(BPI) B4

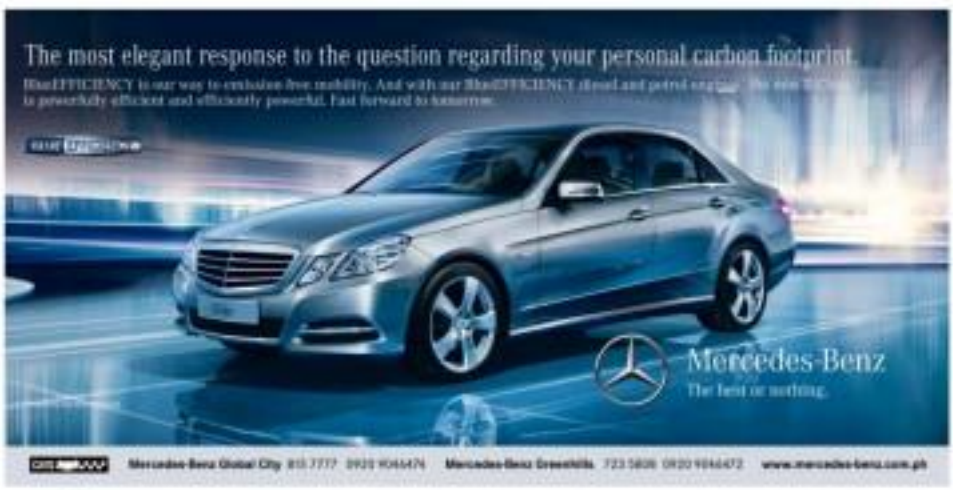
INDICATORS

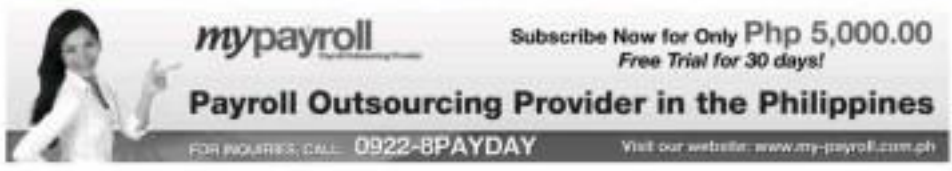
PESO-DOLLAR RATE
44.180

STOCK MARKET
43.91

Market observes Bonifacio Day

THE STOCK market yesterday suspended trading in observance of Bonifacio Day, a non-working holiday. Trading will resume today.





Hi-Precision Diagnostics accredited for International Standards

Hi-Precision Diagnostics (HPD), one of the country's most trusted medical diagnostic laboratories, has recently been accredited by the Department of Trade and Industry's (DTI) Philippine Accreditation Office (PAO) for ISO 15189:2007 (PNS ISO 15189:2010).

Assembly of the accreditation certificate was spearheaded by (Standing from left) Dr. Irene Louise Chiong (Head from left), Officer-in-Charge of PAO; with (from L-R) Pathologists Dr. Cesar Ng, Dr. Ma. Jacinta Bueno, HPD Medical Director Dr. Nelson Uy, Pathologists Dr. Irma Bautista, Dr. Evelyn Celebrado Theresia, Dr. Paulita Aguanno.

ISO 15189:2007 is the international standard specifically designed for medical laboratories. Its stringent requirements ensure that laboratory tests results are accurate and done using processes that are at par with the best in the world, the staff is competent and well trained, and machines are always in optimum condition.

Aside from the continuous pursuit of quality through accreditation, Hi-Precision Diagnostics has also acquired the latest state-of-the-art systems and technologies resulting in more efficient and accurate testing due to decreasing manual interventions.

HPD continues to elevate the medical laboratory industry by offering specialized testing services not commonly available in the Philippines through exclusive partnerships with reputable institutions in other countries. Previously hard to find tests such as Paternity Testing, Immunohistochemistry, and Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) are now available in Hi-Precision Diagnostics' 17 branches, affiliates and satellites in Manila and Cebu.

To top it off, HPD was the first in the Philippines to offer Online Results where clients can access results anytime, anywhere through its website at www.hi-precision.com.ph. They also offer Cumulative Summary Results, which is a single page, side-by-side comparison of all tests results for better health and wellness monitoring.

As a result of the accreditation and various innovative features that HPD offers, it's no wonder that patient and client confidence is growing not only locally, but internationally as well. It is also a testament to how HPD is indeed, leading in quality diagnostics healthcare.

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Italian company keen on wind power venture

ITALIAN INVESTORS are planning to invest in wind power projects in Oriental Mindoro, which was estimated to have over 200 megawatts of various renewable energy potential.

Rep. Rodolfo Valencia of the 1st district of Oriental Mindoro identified one of these investors as Ibelli Energia which, he said, had already started conducting studies on prospective wind power sites in the province.

The lawmaker, who is a member of the House energy committee, added that the company was also nearing financing clearance for the wind project — a clear indication that the Italian investor was seriously keen on pursuing the power project.

Valencia, however, refused to disclose additional project details in view of the various negotiations being done by the investors involved.

Ibelli Energia is a private company that holds a stake in the Italian electric transmission grid.

The Italian energy firm had also expressed its interests in power energy to include the design and construction of power production plants from renewable sources, particularly for hydropower and wind farms.

Aside from Ibelli Energia, Synenergia and Philippine Hybrid Energy Systems Inc. (Phenergy) also planned to invest in wind power projects in the province.

Phenergy is the local subsidiary of the US-based SteinHilber Inc. which, as early as 2004, had been scouting potential wind sites in the country.

In 2004, the Department of Energy signed pre-commercial contracts with Phenergy for four wind sites in Mariveles, Bataan; Bolinao, Alaminos, Ilocos Norte; Oriental Mindoro, and Subic, Zambales. — Jerry E. Esplepa

K-Water eyes project in Benguet

By Arra B. Marco

DESPITE A legal issue over a power plant acquisition, Korea Water Resources Corp. (K-Water), the leading water resources and power company in South Korea, said it was still willing to invest about $500 million (roughly P23 billion) in a 330-megawatt hydropower project in Benguet.

Gee-Hwan Park, K-Water vice president for land, energy and overseas services division, said the company was also looking at further investing in local renewable energy projects in the country.

"We do not have specific plans yet, but Corporation-wise is no from arena, we will look into it. We are willing to partner with the government or private entities for these P23 projects. But still, our main focus is on energy and water distribution as these are where the expertise of K-Water lie," Park said.

Also, K-Water has started the feasibility study for a flood control project in Pampanga and the rehabilitation of the Malitubog Dam in Bohol.

However, Park admitted that the decision whether or not to push through with these projects hinges largely on the result of the company's pending case before the Supreme Court, over K-Water's bid to acquire the 246-MW Angat hydroelectric power plant in Bulacan.

In April this year, the Korean company submitted the highest bid of $600.8-million for the power plant in an auction held by Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corp. (PSALM). This operator is part of the government's plan to dispose all its power generation assets.

However, a number of cause-oriented groups questioned the legality of K-Water's participation in the bidding since it was a wholly foreign state-owned corporation.

These groups asserted that the sale of the power plant to a foreign company might put at risk Metro Manila's main source of drinking water.

Angat Dam provides about 96 percent of the metropolis' water requirements and irrigates some 31,000 hectares of farmlands in Bulacan and Pampanga.

Park, however, stressed K-Water would not pull out its investments prematurely.

"We are willing to wait for the project judgment of the Supreme Court. We can extend the performance bond if necessary. We will wait and will not pull out," Park explained.

According to Park, the fact that K-Water conducted an international roadshow in the Philippines was also a clear indication that the Korean firm remained keen on continuing its planned projects in the country.

Firm awaits SC decision on Angat case

PLANTERS BANK- ADFIAP PARTNERSHIP

Planters Bank chair and CEO Amha-a-zader Jesus P. Tambunting (right) and Association of Development Financing Institutions in Asia Pacific (Adfiap) chair Nihal Fonseka, who is also the CEO of Sri Lanka's DFCC Bank, shake hands after signing the memorandum of agreement that will broaden the partnership of the two institutions in the promotion of small and medium-scale enterprises. Under the agreement, Planters Bank – through the SME Center for Asia – will provide training and consultancy services to Adfiap's 130-member institutions in 32 countries in Asia Pacific. Adfiap is a regional organization composed of state-owned and private development banks.

Tariff hike on offal seen

By Rita T. Olchondra

THE COUNTRY is considering raising its import tariff on offals such as pork ears and head.

"There will be a review of tariff for offals," Agriculture Assistant Secretary Darwin Cullaguian told reporters.

The current 'tariff' is only 5 percent under World Trade Organization agreements. Such a rate, according to some pundits, make it easy for traders to bring in offal.

Meat processors, who import offal, have expressed concern that the move to increase the tariff might have stemmed from fraudulent bid filed at the House of Representatives calling by institutions on certain imported products.

The resolution stemmed from allegations that the importation of some items including offal are being used to smuggle in choice cuts that are supposed to incur high tariff.

The Philippines imports 50,000 to 60,000 metric tons of offal, that also include pork fats, skin, rind and assorted cuts, mainly from the United States, Canada and the United States.

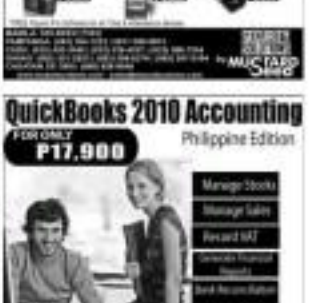
The meat industry may oppose the increase in tariff, according to an official of the Philippine Association of Meat Processors and the Philippine Inc. (Pampi).

A major concern is that there is no local supply of compliant materials to meet processors, said Pampi executive director Francisco L. Buencamino.

Another concern is that if the increase would be imposed, the Philippines would have to inform other WTO members of the change as well says.

Theoretically, the tariff increase may encourage take up of local stocks if these meet technical and sanitary requirements of processed food manufacturers, Buencamino said.

"The problem is that the creases are not importing is that, locally, there is no reliable supply of pork products that meet phytosanitary and technical requirements. We can't use materials that are not compliant because it will result to rotek food over time. The government must therefore help with putting up inclusive consistent slaughterhouses with cutting floors," he explained.



PH exports to Japan rise by 24%

By Abigail L. Ho

THE VALUE of goods shipped from the Philippines to Japan jumped 23.8 percent to $5.69 billion, from $4.6 billion a year ago.

Data from the Japan External Trade Organization showed that from January to September, the country's imports from Japan likewise rose to $8.2 billion, a 44.8-percent hike from last year's $5.6-billion.

In the first nine months, the Philippines accounted for 1.5 percent of Japanese exports and 1.2 percent of imports.

Japan posted a trade surplus of $2.6 billion during the period.

In September alone, the country exported 25.8 percent more goods to Japan, with total exports during that month reaching $707.8 million, vis-a-vis the $559.9 million posted in the same month the previous year.

The country's import from Japan, on the other hand, rose to $974.4 million, a 17.9-percent jump from September 2009's $826.6-million.

Japan got 1.2 percent of its imports from the Philippines in September. The Philippines, on the other hand, accounted for 1.4 percent of Japanese exports during the period.

Japan is now the country's third largest trading partner, next to the United States and the European Union member-states.

After being severely hit by the global financial crisis in late 2008 and early 2009, the Japanese economy was once showing signs of recovery. Trade with its partners in the first three quarters had risen and now reached its rise.

Japan's exports to all its trading partners climbed 37.7 percent to $558.4 billion, while imports jumped 26.7 percent to $581.9-billion.

SSS net revenue up 51% in 9 mos.

By Bancel W. Dumlao

THE SOCIAL Security System's net revenue for the nine months to September rose 51 percent year-on-year to P47.62 billion, driven mainly by income from investments.

Emilio de Quiros Jr., SSS president and chief executive, said in a statement the amount also means the system had surpassed its net revenue target of P32.2 billion by 48 percent.

Aside from income on investments, SSS revenues come from contributions of members.

De Quiros said the nine-month performance was buoyed mainly by the P22.1-billion income from investments.

These include earnings from equities that increased by 55 percent to P12.14 billion, and dividends surpassed the target of P7.33 billion by some 70 percent.

Its said contribution collections, which made up 74 percent of total revenues, rose to P68.48 billion which was 18 percent or P1.22 billion higher year-on-year.

"We surpassed our contribution collection target of P58.04 billion by over P909 million," he said. "On the other hand, our payments for benefits grew by 7 percent and amounted to P67.72 billion."

De Quiros said the SSS had started implementing measures aimed to cut down delinquent accounts, including overdue loan amortization of members that has ballooned to more than P27 billion.

SSS departments have been put to work to ascertain the accountabilities of former officials who used account and remit the fees and earnings they received as members of the SSS to various blue-chip companies, he said.

The SSS chief said that in September, the agency sought confirmation from the Department of Justice...the ex officio legal counsel of SSS—regarding the powers and legal opinion that the board received by its nominees belong to the pension fund.

"We are still collecting the data," he said. "We will be sending them demand letters since we establish their accountabilities."

Earlier this month, the Bureau of Internal Revenue filed charges against former SSS presidents Eduardo Nieto and chair Thelma Gutierrez who earned millions of pesos from stock options, allowances and other perks in excess law of the state-run pension fund for non-executive private sector.

GSIS to review global investment program

From page B4

because of the trip President Aquino was about to make.

Mr. Aquino was about to leave for the United States to convince investors to bring funds to the Philippines, Vergara said.

Mr. Chit Cline, he added, is deemed "rather unusual" to invest money abroad in light of the President's mission.

If the GSIS would continue with the overseas investment program, Vergara said he would prefer that the funds be orchestrated to emerging markets.

About $400 million of the GSIS' fund is placed in the Amundi Indosuez fund run by trade agricultural, in turn invests in fixed income in developed markets. Another $200-million is managed by Pimco, the world's largest fixed income fund manager with over $1 trillion in assets.

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BUSINESS

Smuggling a key hurdle in auto market expansion

By Abigail L. Ho

WIDESPREAD SMUGGLING and a weak second-tier auto parts manufacturing sector remain major deterrents in the expansion of the domestic automotive market.

International Finance Corp. Philippine representative Jesse Ang cited smuggling as one of the biggest hurdles in the growth of the industry.

"One of the biggest issues in the Philippines is corruption by way of smuggling. It's constricting the size of the market. We really have to deal with the issue of smuggling," he said.

Philippine Institute of Development Studies senior research fellow Rafaelita Aldaba, on the other hand, said the country needed to develop its auto parts sector if it wanted a larger slice of automotive investments.

She cited the glaring difference between the Philippine and Thai auto parts industry as an example.

In the Philippines, she said there were around 124 "Tier 3" firms, or those that supplied directly to vehicle assemblers. These were composed mostly of multinationals and affiliates of the auto assemblers themselves. Tier 2 manufacturers, on the other hand, were composed of around 150 players, or probably even less, as many of them had already closed shop.

In stark contrast, Thailand had around 700 Tier 1 auto parts makers and some 1,100 companies in Tiers 2 and 3.

As a result, the local contents of Thai-manufactured vehicles came up to as much as 60-90 percent, while those produced in the Philippines contained only around 15-20 percent locally sourced parts.

Aldaba cited lack of available raw materials, low productivity, and old equipment and technology, particularly for Tier 2 players, as the main reasons for the country's backward status in the auto parts sector.

Wind power dev't efforts get big boost from ADB

By Amy R. Remo

THE ASIAN Development Bank plans to provide technical assistance to the Philippines and three other countries in the Asia-Pacific to help boost wind power development in the region.

Jitendra Jilesh Shah, adviser for the office of the regional director general at the ADB, said the Philippines, Mongolia, Sri Lanka and Vietnam would initially be the region's "fund recipients" under the ADB's Question Leap Wind Initiative.

In an interview with the business, Shah said the technical assistance would help these countries and their respective energy departments to monetize their wind resources. Its scope includes putting up wind towers that could measure wind speed, climate and strength for at least a year.

"The Question Leap is really all about doing background work and helping governments benefit (from their wind resources). It also aims to help governments in designing the roadmap for wind energy over the next few years and to figure out what mechanisms are) in place and what's not in place ... and how they should go about it," Shah added.

He said those activities were expected to begin within the first quarter of next year.

The ADB is just awaiting the Japanese government's authorization for the $3 million that had been allocated for the technical assistance.

Under the Question Leap initiative, the ADB targets to support projects that can generate more than 1 gigawatt in wind power, which will be put up by developing member countries (DMCs) over the next five years. Total investments of about $1 billion are expected to come from ADB and other financing sources.

The 1 GW of wind power can generate 2,000 gigawatt-hours of clean and renewable electricity for 2,000 hours per year at a capacity utilization of 22 percent. This will also reduce carbon dioxide emissions by up to 2 million tons per year.

BUSINESS

Vista Land to invest P1B in masterplanned 'city'

Development to rise in Las Piñas-Alabang area

By Doris C. Dumlao

VISTA LAND Vista Land & Lifescapes Inc. is investing about P1 billion over the next six months in a commercial and lifestyle complex in its 60-ha masterplanned city in the Las Piñas-Alabang area, building a major source of future recurring revenues.

In a press statement, Vista Land chief executive officer Bienvenido Ferrer said the groundbreaking of the new lifestyle center in Southern Metro Manila had been set for December.

"We are looking at total capital expenditures of about P1.1 billion in the next five years for Vista, as we build our major components including the Lifestyle Center, the Riverwalk, the church, and the University Town, together with continuing residential developments," Ferrer said.

He said the already thriving development consisted of three high-end, mid-range and entry-level residential and commercial projects of Vista Land's Brittany, Crown Asia and Camella brands. The properties, namely Brittany's Paradiso, Crown Asia's Fernbrook, and Camella's Corrines, now have almost 3,300 residential units on about 130 hectares.

Ferrer said these projects have primed Vista for other residences and locators, while enhancing property values in the area.

The master plan for Vista is to be a dynamic, self-contained 600-hectare "city of the future" with a mix of commercial and business, commercial, educational and leisure districts.

It will integrate concepts in urban development, community planning, environmental and energy friendliness, innovations in hosting businesses, education, healthcare and leisure facilities, efficient transportation and information technology applications.

Apart from the start of construction of the lifestyle commercial property component, the development of the Riverwalk leisure estate is also ongoing.

"Years ago, we recognized that some of our extensive land bank would be used for integrated property projects, and not solely residential communities. This is a long-term direction that anticipates urban growth, specifically in the south," Ferrer said.

"Residents and business need quality homes and communities, but just as importantly, they need a full array of facilities, resources and services right where they live and work, as a strategic location with access to other urban centers. For such needs, Vista will not be only a mixed-use cluster of developments but a self-contained city for all interests and purposes," she said.

Ferrer added that Vista Land had built up the capabilities and expertise needed for the success of a project of this size and scale.

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INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Philippine Business for Social Progress (PBSP), the largest corporate-led non-profit social development foundation in the Philippines, through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) invites interested bidders to apply for Eligibility and subsequently to Bid for the:

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6. Audited Financial Statement and Income Tax return for the last three (3) years

B. SCHEDULE
1. Deadline for Submission of Letter of Intent and accomplished Eligibility Requirements : December 03, 2010 (not later than 5:00 PM) Bid and Awards Committee (BAC Secretariat) c/o GSU Manager Philippine Business for Social Progress (PBSP) PSDC Building, Magallanes corner Real Streets Intramuros, Manila
2. Pre-Bid Conference and Issuance of Bid Documents : December 08, 2010 at 2:00PM PBSP Manila Office
   C.1 Bid Fee: Php1,500.00 per Bid (Non-Refundable)
   C.2 Place of Issuance: Intramuros, Manila
   C.3 Participation of eligible bidders in the Pre-Bid Conference is upon payment of non-refundable bid fee.
3. Submission and Opening of Bids : December 10, 2010 at 10:00AM PBSP Manila Office

PBSP assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidder for any expense or loss that may be incurred in the preparation of bids.

(Sgd.) P. J. BOMBETA
Chair, Bids and Awards Committee

PHILIPPINE BUSINESS FOR SOCIAL PROGRESS
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(Publication No. 4010)

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Get up to 50% discount from "fashion for the powerful women" Maldita in Super Brands Super Sale dated on Dec. 3 (Fri) to 5 (Sun), at the Megatrade Hall 3 in SM Megamall. This branded bazaar will feature the country's top selling local and imported brands such as Bond, Wrangler, Dockers, Tomato, Spyce, Sandugo, World Balance, Mentol and many more. Shown at the center is Eric Tong Marketing Director of Maldita, with (left) Melanie Kay Sy and Guinevere Go-Kua of RedEvents. For inquiries you may call Diane Sy at (917-8)dash(-) 8923 dash(-)or e-mail us at redevents.phil@gmail.com. This event is for the benefit of Project Brave Kids and is brought to you by RedEvents, Inc. in partnership with Citibank. With media partners Philippine Daily Inquirer and 105.1 Crossover. Per DTI-NCR permit no. 6683 series of 2010.

WRANGLER IN SUPER BRANDS SUPER SALE 2010

Avail of Wrangler's trendy and fashionable clothing at fabulous discounts in Super Brands Super Sale on Dec. 3-5 at the Megatrade Hall 3 in SM Megamall. This 3-day bazaar will be home to some of the country's well-known local and imported brands like Body Project, Levi's, Hush Puppies, Mentol, Nike and many more. Shown are Jeremy Sy, CEO of Neogen's Mkt. Trading, a vendor promoter of RedEvents, Inc. with Francis Reynard Santiago, Boutique Operations Manager and Jonathan Evangelista, Marketing Manager of Magnifico Jeans Inc. for Wrangler. For more information on this event, please e-mail us at redevents.phil@gmail.com or call Diane Sy at 911-8dash(-)8923 dash(-)or Arliesh Tiglao at 911-8dash(-)8920. Super Brands Super Sale is for the benefit of Project Brave Kids and is organized by RedEvents, Inc. in partnership with Citibank. Visit Media partners Philippine Daily Inquirer and 105.1 Crossover. Per DTI-NCR permit no. 6683 series of 2010.

OBITUARIES

"...that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." – Romans 10:9

Rogue Esporas Elefan, Jr.

January 1, 1921 – November 26, 2010

Retired Project Manager of the Department of Agrarian Reform

died in the grace of our Lord at the age of 89.

He is survived by his wife Emelia; children and grandchildren:

Emmanuel & Cristy Elefan — Karr, Jael, Dyan, Joshua, Benny
Roque, Jr. & Purdy Elefan — Timothy John
Ruben & Rose Elefan — Michael, Kristine, Angelica
Romeo & Alma Elefan
Ric Pelikan — James & Carmen
Wayne & Ronil Gutierrez — Camille & L.A.

His body lies in state at the Holy Trinity Memorial Chapels, Sucat Road, Parañaque City.
Telephone Nos. 823-3082 – 83 & 823-1296.

Interment will be on December 3, 2010, 3 PM at the Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque City.

OBITUARIES

"Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for My sake will find it." – Matthew 10:39

MANUEL BARCOMA TRIAS, JR.

was joined His Creator on November 27, 2010 at the age of 61.

His beloved wife **Teresita de Jesus Trias**; children: **Nerissa** & **Jocelyn**, **Haime** (†), **Josephine** & **Carlos**, **Michael** & **Penny**, **Manuel** & **Arlyn**, **Heidi** & **Hensj**, **Angel** & **Tet**, **Agnes** & **Jin**, **Ariel** & **Che** and **Mara** & **Dale**; grandchildren, sisters-and relatives request the pious readers to offer prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains was lie at La Funeraria Paz-Sucat, inside Manila Memorial Park, Parañaque City

Interment will be on Thursday, December 02, 2010 at the Heritage Memorial Park, after the 9:00 a.m. Mass.

"Even when I walk through a dark valley, I feel no harm, for you are at my side; your rod and staff give me courage..." Psalm 23:4

The family, friends and co-workers of

REGALADO SAN LUIS JOSE

(1927 – 2009)

will commemorate the First Year of Regie's passing on Tuesday, November 30, 2010, at a Community Mass at 6 in the evening at the Parish of the Holy Sacrifice, University of the Philippines, Diliman, Quezon City.

The pious reader is requested to pray for the eternal repose of his and other mourners' souls, and for the well-being of their families.

Pray music, thru God's grace, may strengthen our hands of love!

"...absent from the body is to be present with the Lord." – 2 Corinthians 5:8

EFREN J. MASON

of Pinamalayan, Oriental Mindoro

passed away in the grace of our Lord on November 26, 2010 at the age of 72.

His bereaved wife **Digna**; children: **Alleen**, **Maisha**, **Sheila**, **Charisa**, **Michael**, son-in-law **Lawrence**; grandchildren **Miga**, **Cissa** & **William** and other relatives request the pious readers for the eternal repose of his soul.

His body lies in state at Sampaloc Chapel, La Funeraria Paz, Sucat (inside Manila Memorial Park).

Interment will be on Wednesday, December 1, 2010 at Manila Memorial Park after the 3 p.m. Mass.

In Loving Memory

PACITA "PATTY" GARCIA

10th Death Anniversary

(November 30, 1996)

The following masses will be offered for the eternal repose of her soul:

Perpetual Adoration Convent (Pink Sisters), Novaliches ..... 6:00 A.M.
Christ the King, 3rd St. Rodriguez Ave., Q.C. ..... 6:30 A.M., 4:30 P.M.
Mount Carmel Shrine, Broadway Ave., Q.C. ..... 7:30 A.M., 4:30 P.M.
Santuario De San Jose, Greenhills, Mandaluyong ..... 7:15 A.M., 6:15 P.M.
Most Holy Redeemer Parish, Bonnie Hill, QC ..... 6:00 A.M., 4:30 P.M.
Chapel of the Eucharistic Lord, 7th Flr., SM Megamall ..... 12:15 P.M., 6:30 P.M.

The family requests the pious readers to pray for the eternal peace and happiness.

PAL Holdings H1 profit boosted by traffic hike

By Paolo S. Montecillo

LOOKS TAILwind Philippine Airlines (PAL) Holdings grew its profit substantially in the first six months of its fiscal year on the back of the improvement in demand, despite the many challenges faced by the local aviation sector over the past few months.

In a disclosure, the listed firm said its consolidated net income for the March to September period ended P2.34 billion. This represents a 349-percent increase from the figure reported in same period last year.

Consolidated revenues for the period amounted to P37.5 billion, up by 21 percent from last year's P30.1 billion.

"The increase in revenues was attributable mainly to higher passenger and cargo revenues earned during the period," the company said.

But carrier's prospects still 'challenging'

Its main subsidiary, flag carrier PAL, experienced a 16.4- and 10.5-percent growth in its passenger and cargo traffic, respectively, over the same period the year before, "reflecting an upturn in global economy."

An improvement of 13.4 percent in yields generated from passenger fare offerings complemented the increase in passenger traffic.

Total expenses and other charges for the period April to September 2010 rose by 14 percent over the previous year's same period total of P34.3 billion.

This was primarily due to higher expenses related to flying operations, aircraft and traffic servicing, reservation and sales and other expenses, offset by the decrease in maintenance, financing charges and general and administrative costs.

Flying operations expenses, which increased by 21 percent, is attributable mainly to higher fuel costs and aircraft lease rentals. Approximately 40 percent of its operating expenses represent jet fuel consumption.

More international flights were operated during the period, resulting in higher aircraft and tool $/ landing/parking costs by 2 percent or P69.7 million over the previous year's level of P4.5 billion.

Cost cutting measures implemented by PAL resulted in the reduction of personnel and administrative expenses by 23 percent or P375.3 million.

Still in bull market territory

MARKET RIDER

Dett Sobrevega

AFTER ANOTHER week of trading, the market ended 68.82 points down to 4,051.16 in the Philippine Stock Exchange index (PSEi) on Friday from the previous week's close of 4,121.40 points.

Along with this modest performance, four out of the five trading days of the week were dominated by foreign selling value turnover. It was only on Friday that foreign buying took the lead, albeit marginal, 1%.

In the face of the current climate, these factors in the context of the market, I feel that we are "still in bull market territory."

Going by the charts

The charts seem to agree. The market hit its recent high of 4,094.25 on Friday. It breached the 4,049.08 that has served as the key support index since the start of November, but the market managed to close higher at 4,051.16.

It was not much but it was somewhat significant, for the market did this with about the same amount of value turnover as the previous days of the week when the index was falling. I interpret it as a sign of the market's interest in bargains.

Will the trend hold? The market's uncharacteristic thinness. The upward crossover that was noticeably developing during the week remained tentative at Friday.

There is no selling, though, if this crossover will mature. Investment fundamentals behind us is also affected to develop more in other equity markets around the world. They are currently unpredictable. Half of our trading business is accounted for by foreign transactions.

Trading strategy

This trend, should it continue, opens up the opportunity for bargain hunting. However, trading actions has been affected by profit taking on gains and off actionsse triggered by the listing of new shares.

First, there was the listing of stock option shares of some actively traded companies, such as Jollibee Food Corp. (JFC), Megaworld Corp. (MEG), First Philippine Holdings Corp. (FPH), Globe Telecom, Corp. (GLO), and Manila Electric Co. (MER).

The second and possibly the more significant factors—which would have created profit-taking and selloff activity and which drove the market to go down during the week—was the listing of Bank of Asia Corp. (BOA).

Like in the Cebu Air Inc. (CEB) IPO, the market immediately went into selling mode after the listing of MBC shares. This continued for the next two trading days, just like when CEB had its IPO.

Surprisingly, there was a twist in the MBC listing. Foreign investors were actually buying MBC shares while domestic investors were buying them.

Again, as in the case of CEB, the price of MBC held on—presumably close to its IPO price.

In view of this rather bright situation, the more prudent trading move to undertake could be to sell and take profits until we see that stock price-mobilize-stallion the key support level of the market.

Bottom line spin

Still confident about a market since all the way up to the 4,400 level or so before the end of year. I will continue to look for stocks that could still be "good buys."

Alsons Equity Ventures, Inc. (ASPV) could be one. For one, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) approved on August 6 and a 50.4-percent stake in City Savings Bank (CSB) for P1.86 billion. This brings the ownership of the AEV group of the bank to 99.22 percent.

The full impact of this acquisition could not yet be fully determined at the moment. But the more consolidated earnings growth of AEV.

Rising 10.6 consumer expenditure items (EPI) Bell, Chevron Inc. did not to count the profit contribution from the latter acquisition. AEV is trading at the conservative price-earnings ratio (PER) of 11 times.

Following the current market PER of 14 times, the price objective of AEV would be P46.40 per share.

Another "good buy" call is First Gen Corp. (FGEN). Aside from being the holding company of Energy Development Corp. (EDC), which is under AC group. FGEN is the power-holding company for the power-rich assets of the listed group. It presently owns the 132-MW Pantabangan-Masiway and the 140-MW Agusan Solar power projects, the (300-MW Team 300) and 300-MW San Lorenzo gas-fired power plants, the 225-MW Batangas bunker-fired power plant.

FGEN just reported that in net income for the third quarter sharply increased by 849 percent owing to the higher earnings contribution of EDC, the First Gen group, and First Gen Hydro Power Corp. de 2010 re. interest earnings. FGEN is said to be trading at 6.38 times PER. The industry average is currently at 11.23 times PER.

EDC could be another good stock pick. We'll continue with more of the subject in my next column. Don't miss it.

(You may reach the Market Rider at marketrider@inquirer.com.ph or at dett@mozcha.com.)

BUSINESS

Peso remains competitive vs peers, says BSP

Local currency also less volatile than counterparts

By Michelle V. Rivera

THE PESO remains competitive, with its appreciation and volatility down the years of the year comparing favorably with those of some competitor currencies, according to the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas.

From the start of the year, the peso, which closed at 44.28 against the US dollar on Friday, registered an appreciation of 5.1 percent versus the greenback.

Over the same period, volatility of the peso averaged 2.4 percent.

"The peso is still competitive. It is not among the most volatile currencies out among those that have appreciated the most," BSP Governor Amando Tetangco Jr. said.

Data from the central bank showed that the peso's year-to-date appreciation of 5.1 percent was slower than the following: 11.1 percent for the Thai baht; 9.9 percent for Japanese yen; 9.7 percent for the Malaysian ringgit; 9.2 percent for the Australian dollar; 7.6 percent for the Singaporean dollar; 7.3 percent for the New Zealand dollar; 5.9 percent for the Taiwanese dollar; and 5.3 percent for the Indonesian rupiah.

Although appreciation is a consequence of rising amount of foreign capital entering a country, it dampens competitiveness of a currency as it makes export goods more expensive in dollar terms.

The rise of the peso has elicited concern among Filipino exporters, some of whom have urged the BSP to intervene in the foreign exchange markets by buying dollars to deliberately weaken the peso.

However, Tetangco said there is no truth to perception that the peso has lost competitiveness, explaining that its rise is actually slower than the appreciation of other currencies.

Moreover, the central bank chief said that despite perception that the peso's movement have become erratic this year, it remains competitive given that its volatility has been swamped when compared with other currencies.

The 2.4-percent volatility of the peso so far this year is mild compared with the following: 4.9 percent for the Australian dollar; 4.7 percent for the euro; 4.3 percent for the Japanese yen; 3.7 percent for the New Zealand dollar; 3.4 percent for the Thai baht; 3.3 percent for the Malaysian ringgit; 3.2 percent for the British pound; 3.1 percent for the Taiwan yuan; and 2.9 percent for Singaporean dollar.

The volatility of the Russian ruble, Taiwanese dollar and Indonesian rupiah, however, are lower at 2.2, 1.8, and 1.6 percent, respectively.

One of the objectives of the BSP is to help temper volatility of the peso as this can become disruptive to business activities. A volatile currency can make it difficult for export and import businesses to plan their budgets.

PIATCO expresses full support for P-Noy's PPP framework

MANILA, Philippines (DATE) - Under a new leadership, the Philippine International Air Terminals Co., Inc. (PIATCO), expressed full support for President Benigno S. Aquino III's thrust for the public-private partnership (PPP) framework that would pave the way for the settlement of an almost 12-year old dispute involving the opening of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) Passenger Terminal 3.

"We laud the President's initiative and sincere intention to fast-tract the implementation of infrastructure projects through his launching of the PPP in its global perspective to regain the confidence of the international business community. We particularly note President Aquino's inclusion of tourism objectives in the PPP list, not only in terms of increasing tourist arrivals but also improving the quality of aviation service and infrastructure to support national development goals. We join our colleagues in the industry who are determined to extend its fullest support for the effective implementation of the PPP. The success of the President Aquino's PPP program would be measured in the immediate resolution of the NAIA Terminal 3 dispute. Notably, the government is fully aware of the overcapacity of Terminals 1 and 2 and the deteriorated state of Terminal 1, thereby, the urgent need to open NAIA Terminal 3 as the Philippines' gateway that is competitive with all other neighboring international airports, and in line with the open-sky policy of the present administration", as strongly expressed by PIATCO's newly-elected president JENNIFER ENANO-BOTE.

In the President's speech at the opening of Infrastructure Philippines 2010, he mentioned the need to rationalize the country's network of airports, expand runways and terminal capacities in tourist hubs, and recognize international aviation as a major driver for tourism, trade and employment and over-all development.

PIATCO built the NAIA Terminal 3 and owns said facility until it is paid by the government for the cost of constructing the terminal. The government and PIATCO are working to fast-tract the resolution of pending court cases for the immediate opening of NAIA Terminal 3 for the gradual transfer of the international foreign carriers from Terminal 1 to Terminal 3 as announced by Gen. Angel Honrado, General Manager of the Manila International Airport Authority. The permanent resolution of Terminal 3 issues is a genuine showcase and would serve as a milestone for the success of the PPP's early implementation.

"PIATCO is open to all options available for the immediate and just resolution of pending court cases. PIATCO welcome's the immediate opening of NAIA 3 via a consortium/joint venture with foreign and local investors under mutually accepted terms to achieve the objectives of the PPP framework. We are optimistic that the President would be able to resolve this long-standing case by year-end as his Christmas gift to the Filipino people," PIATCO's new president reiterated.

The determination of the amount of 'just compensation' that the government needs to pay PIATCO is pending before the RTC in Pasay and is expected to be resolved at the earliest time, if possible before the year ends.

PAID ADVT.

LIFESTYLE Wellness
Color Theme: Simon Sun Juan

Unique, budget-friendly holiday finds—in bazaars

Homemade skincare products, yummy pies, handy planners

By Tetin Yeng

SAVVY SOGIANS shoppers know bazaars are the best place to find unusual treats, items—whether in the form of a new organic skincare line, an up-and-coming shoe brand or a home-based bakery with the best macaroons.

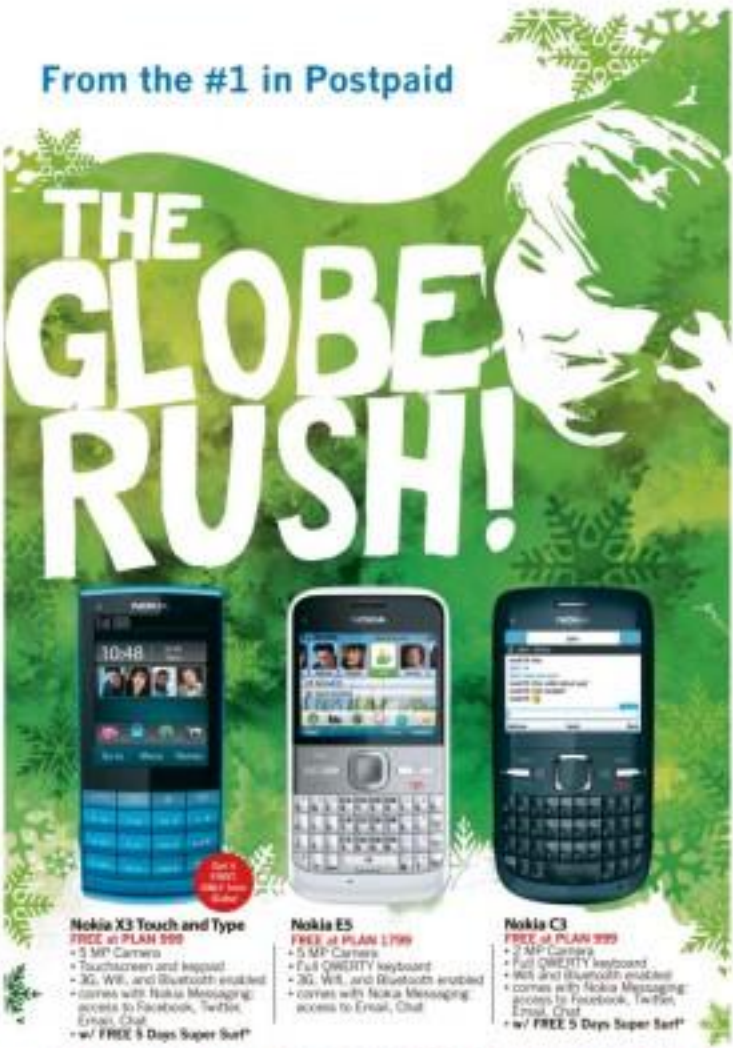
Bazaars don't have the same overhead costs as maintaining a brick-and-mortar space, so expect to find good deals and maybe even stellar bargains (and conversations) with the owners, as most stalls are manned by hands-on proprietors. It's an ideal venue for the thoughtful holiday shopper on a budget.

Here's a list of some bazaars open today:

Mom&B Bazaar
Where: Rockwell Tent
Hours: 12 noon to 12 midnight

Big Picture Experience Hub
Where: SM Megamall, Bldg. A, 4/F

GIVE your techie friends quirky gadget covers to protect their devices while on the go.



SAVOURY Bread Bowl, Pasar's Bites

PUNCHDRUNK Punch has unique designs.

Unique, budget-friendly holiday finds—in bazaars

Frontpage C1

ORGANIC Aloe Life Gel Lotion is a great gift for friends with sensitive skin.

Mezzanine
Hours: 9 a.m.–9 p.m.
Pasir Ris Mall
Where: World Trade Centre
Hours: 11 a.m.–10 p.m.
Shop @ The Fort
Where: MBC Trad., Fort Rose
Iscle Global City
Hours: 10 a.m.–7 p.m.
St. James Bar Great Bazaar

Where: Camera Park, Ayer Alabang Village
Hours: 9 a.m.–9 p.m.
Alabang Centrally
Where: Boulevard High Street (look for tents behind The Spot)
Hours: 7 a.m.–12 noon
Shakespeare Market
Where: 2316 Chino Street Ave. Ext. (formerly Tuazon Ave. Ext.)

Hours: 12 noon–9 p.m.

Or, find hidden study by doing a Facebook search). Most bakeries post locations themselves, check regularly updated downloadable guides (non-spot ph. Others, like Reef Bazaar (ofreefbazaar.com) and time updates on Twitter.

Bazaar finds

Look out for these brands on your next bazaar-shopping spree.

Lapendo

For all-natural and organic homegrown skincare that has been passing popularity among ingredient-conscious beauty junkies. Its edible-tier formulation makes it ideal for sensitive skin, and the reusable and recycled packaging can be grouped into gift sets. Layender's another staff store accepts credit cards, too.

Find it at: Mercato Centrale, Whitespace Market and www.layender.com

Planner People

Give wedding-to-the-gifts-to-guested thought with well-designed agendas from Planner People. The pages are printed on quality book paper and you can choose from nine designs ranging from super-cute to classic. At $12.90, it's both thoughtful and within budget.

Find it at: Sassy Christmas Bazaar Greenhills (Dec. 4-5); Istead Trade Centre (Dec. 10-12); or http://plannerpeople.multiply.com

Tina's Pie Outlet

Tina Bonnet's savoury pies were inspired by a craft in an Australian bazaar. Her homemade coffee and chicken avocado-feta pies are gift-worthy as a great addition to potluck dinners, especially when lavish out of the oven. Top off a hearty holiday meal with her not-too-sweet fruit tarts and hot cups of tea.

Sweet Berry

Tilly Soriano-Baens who loves pop and kids will surely appreciate a gift basket from Sweet Berry household-cleaning products. But are biodegradable, economic and environmentally. The products include wallet deterrent, baby-specific cleaning solutions and bite-size hand sanitizers. Check out the Christmas catalog for packaged gift sets.

Find it at: Moonlit Bazaar Rockwell or www.sweetberry.com.ph.

Punchdrunk Punch

Give Indian flavour and relaxation-any and functional gadgets stocks with which to take their previous devices while on the go. Punchdrunk Punch's designs are fun and eye-catching, it even lets you customize designs for a more personalized approach.

Find it at: St. James Bar Great Bazaar (Nov. 26) or www.punchdrunkpunch.com

Socks

Give your mittens or your girlfriends a pair of Socks that. They're soft and pliable enough to be easily folded and rushed in your handbag—perfect for last-begged from both and ideal for those last-day light.

Find it at: St. James Bar Great Bazaar and Moonlit Bazaar Rockwell (Nov. 26); or www.socksonline.com

Messy Berry

Tilly Soriano-Baens who loves pop and kids will surely appreciate a gift basket from Messy Berry household-cleaning products. But are biodegradable, economic and environmentally. The products include wallet deterrent, baby-specific cleaning solutions and bite-size hand sanitizers. Check out the Christmas catalog for packaged gift sets.

Find it at: Moonlit Bazaar Rockwell or www.messyberry.com.ph.

PLANNER People has adorable planners that are both cute and functional.

LAPTOP sleeve by Pinoy Punch

SUITCASE pliable, comfy flats make a good gift for traveling friends.

How electricity helps heal the body

EVERY GOOD and bad thing that happens to our bodies begins from within. This is the foundation of the Inside-Out Philosophy, an approach that stands out in the field of natural health.

In the 1800s, Ambroise electrical engineer and inventor Nikola Tesla made captivating contributions to the birth of commercial electricity. His revolutionary developments in the field of alternating-current, electrical physics and electromechanical engineering won for him many awards in the United States.

Tesla and Albert Einstein believed that energy could be applied to daily life with broad real life—to improve human health, for instance. Thus, Einstein made the natural forces to enhance the body more fresh.

Transcutaneous Electrical Nerve Stimulation or TENS has been used for many years to manage pain. It inhibits pain signals from reaching the brain through a drug-free therapy using small electrical impulses in the nerve paths. It is based on Tesla's now belief in the good effect of electrical current, voltage and static frequencies on living organisms.

It is important to know that the human body emits a frequency, and we are all electrical in nature. A molecule is a group of atoms. Its natural choice is that of a combination, and its group of atoms and different elements emit different frequencies.

The cause of chronic circular sense today is called stress, not the cable, TV and light waves. But a new form of wave

> Made up of molecules, we are all electrical in nature-we even emit a frequency

INSIDE OUT
Lizzy Caluneta

frequency is cancer, one scientist by Medtronics, a system already used and perfected by engineers Lito and Sharon Pascual in Switzerland.

What it does through two handheld stainless steel probes and user endorsers set of gold-tipped handles is to move undetectable bursts to their original crystalline formation. The low frequencies emitted are unnoticeable from 50-100 millihertz, which are safe for human use.

The portable machine, gold-tipped and the TIV Heartland Group in Germany has passed the standards and requirements of the regulating and testing body on electronic safety.

Testimonials

No wonder about discriminating yourself. Take the case of Dinky Dalin (real name), a 59-year-old singer-a survived cancer patient who was given a few months to live. She opted for no chemotherapy or radiation due to severe concerns, and because she feared the side-effects of chemo, she chose to change her lifestyle instead by adding more vegetables and managing her stress.

A relative introduced her to Medtronics. After three minutes of therapy, she experienced a burst of energy. On the third day, things of blackened blood clots were discharged by her body. The offensive smell of the clots convinced her to get rid of the deceased blood by continuing her treatment. Her dedicated stomach flattened after 10 days. Dalin's skin is now looking better than ever.

She has yet to submit herself to another round of tests to her

mentioned doctors to verify if her stage 4 cancer has been reduced. But she has totally passed the six-month deadline set by her doctors.

Another case: Jessica, a housewife in her '60s, was in Hong Kong for vacation. While there, her gingivitis increased to the point where her gums receded and pus was oozing from her gums.

Remembering she had a travelling set of Medtronics with her, she immediately applied the probes to her face. After three days, the pus subsided. Within three days, the facial swelling disappeared and she was able to join the rest of her family on vacation.

Then there's Robert, a trader dancer in his 20s who pulled his hamstring during dance practice for a musical. He was in panic as opening night drew near. He only had 24 hours to get healed. He applied the three-minute electronic therapy applied three times daily. The pain and swelling subsided, and he was able to dance perfectly the next day.

(Medtronics tel. 661-9334/09194418407)

Recharge regimen

There is one way to recharge distinctly natural energy at home: Simply have an eight hours of sleep by 10 p.m., the ideal time set by sleep experts, is all you need to recharge and rejuvenate the body.

Sleep tonic

Mix a glass of milk and blend in a blender. Add a sprig of mint. Drink one hour before bedtime. You can add 2 tbsp of Organique AGAI honey for tonight's nutritional sleep. Call 7220874.

Have a super sleep and remember boobie add one sachet of tea, coleslaw or drink from Slow Drink. Call 997 7417/266 or 0908 3262797.

Affirmation: "I am in control tomorrow"

Love and light!

New route for budget airline

MANILA TIMES FLIGHTS: Just as the country's fastest-growing low-cost carrier, Air-Phil Express is launching a new route that will connect Cebu and Singapore on Dec. 1, servicing seven times a week. This is the latest addition to its expansion on the regional market.

Singapore, one of Asia's most visited places, is the first international destination of AirPhil Express.

The island nation serves homes to Filipino professionals, and there is a variety of thrills for tourists, such as night markets, delicious food fare, retail outlets, theme parks, botanical gardens, museums.

Cebu represents a significant base of travel operations for the airline.

The decision marks the push to address tourism routes and evolve to stay savvy of Singapore's role in serving as a gateway to the Visayas region's network of beautiful islands.

AirPhil Express carries its aviation parts from its celebrated Terminal 2 of Ninoy Aquino International Airport, which provides many-step shopping and efficient boarding and baggage handling services.

Its Airbus A320 for this route is one of the latest narrow-body aircraft around, and serviced by world-class pilots and crew. It offers more legroom and adds convertible storage cabins as a first-class option everywhere that seats 180 passengers.

Its rebooking and refunding policies are sensitive to the changeable winds of customers, as passengers are assisted smooth, time-efficient and cost-friendly transactions.

AirPhil Express continues to make its presence felt in the travel industry as The Budget Airline with a thrust. It is the only low-cost airline to provide as much as 15 kilos of free baggage allowance.

For the latest about great deals on Holiday Gift e.g. Last Minute beforehand, and other AirPhil Express promos by logging on to www.airphilexpress.com, www.facebook.com/flyairphilexpress, or www.twitter.com/airphilexpress.

KLANGS: Jose Rody Fernandez (second from left) and Herbalife vendor director Jeff Ho (center) and the Philippine Youngboo Chung (second from right) sign the Memorandum of Agreement of the builder's sponsorship of Quezon City International Marathon, while Rosana go without Dizon de Leon and Herbalife's marketing and sales manager Elkid Rosario look on. Herbalife products come with the participants' race kits. Herbalife sells weight management nutritional supplements and personal care products in 69 countries through a network of over 1.8 million independent distributors. The company supports the Herbalife Family Foundation (HFF), a nonprofit organization committed to helping children at risk, which will launch on Dec. 1 its Cross the Table nutrition program for the SOS Children's Villages Foundation. Over 500 children in eight SOS villages in Bacolod, Cebu, Davao, Iloilo, Lipa, Manila and Tacloban will be provided with healthy meals every day.

Wrangler®

An iconic denim brand – Wrangler, with its rich heritage has always embraced the philosophy of freedom and the idea of being true to one's self. This season Wrangler captures the spirit of personalization, DIY mentality and independence in its Fall / Winter 2010 Collection. Taking inspiration from Western Culture, an American subculture of the look and style of those who drove custom cars and motorcycles in the 50's to 70's.

Wrangler Philippines brought this idea to life via their launch event aptly entitled "My Fit, My Edge". This season is all about being different and standing out. As the name suggests, it's all about having the freedom to customize and making things your own. Wrangler pulled forth this free-spirited, adrenaline-fuelled and edgy attitude from the last lanes of the highway to the luxe-rise platforms of the fun runway.

The setting took place at an urban car yard, with lots and pieces of old car parts, worn out tires and an aseptlene tank strewn across the area to showcase the brand's genuine identity. A Harley Davidson pulled up on the highway ramp, and the models marched down displaying the three set collection of Wrangler's Fall / Winter 2010 campaign.

From Route 66 to the main roads of Manila, the brand carries its movement from one place to another, city by city, mall by mall speeding across believers and soon to be supporters. With products made to roar through the metro like mustangs and choppers, Wrangler's Fall / Winter 2010 Collection leaves its mark in newly-opened boutiques at the QF of Market! Market!'s New Wing in Fort and at the 2F of Ali Mall in Araneta Center Cubao.

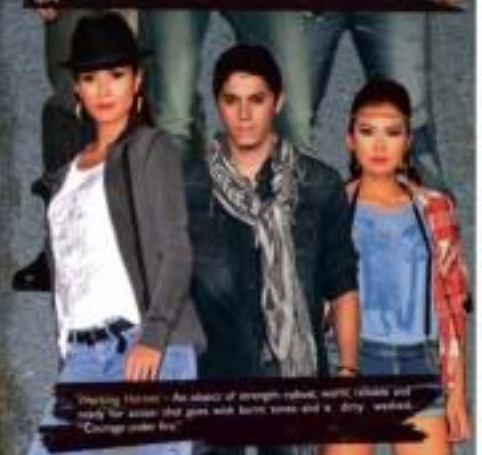
Check out the Wrangler Fall/Winter 2010 collection at all Wrangler stores.

About Wrangler

Wrangler is the one of the biggest denim brands worldwide. It was established in 1947 and continues its roots out from generation to generation. Wrangler has delivered innovation and authentic craftsmanship, devoting to denim history. For more information and updates about Wrangler, visit us at www.wrangler.com.ph and www.facebook.com/WranglerPhils

Thrill or Speed – Motor racing as the inspiration: the fast and furious...and the unlimited reinterpretation as artistry

Engraved Life – Engraving is the major theme: Self expression etched into a garment as wisdom lines of face. "The lived-in look, like wandering spirit."



Working Horse – An object of strength: robust, warm, reliable and ready for action that goes with burns, scars and a dirty workout. "Courage under fire."

LIFESTYLE Wellness

There's a barre–but this workout is not ballet

STRETCHING

Barre3's toning and strengthening aspects are not designed for weight loss, though they can lead to that

By Sasha Lim-Uy

IN A SMALL room, a group of mostly women gently push, pull and stretch on a wooden barre. Through the mirrored walls, one can see graceful plies and leg and arm lifts.

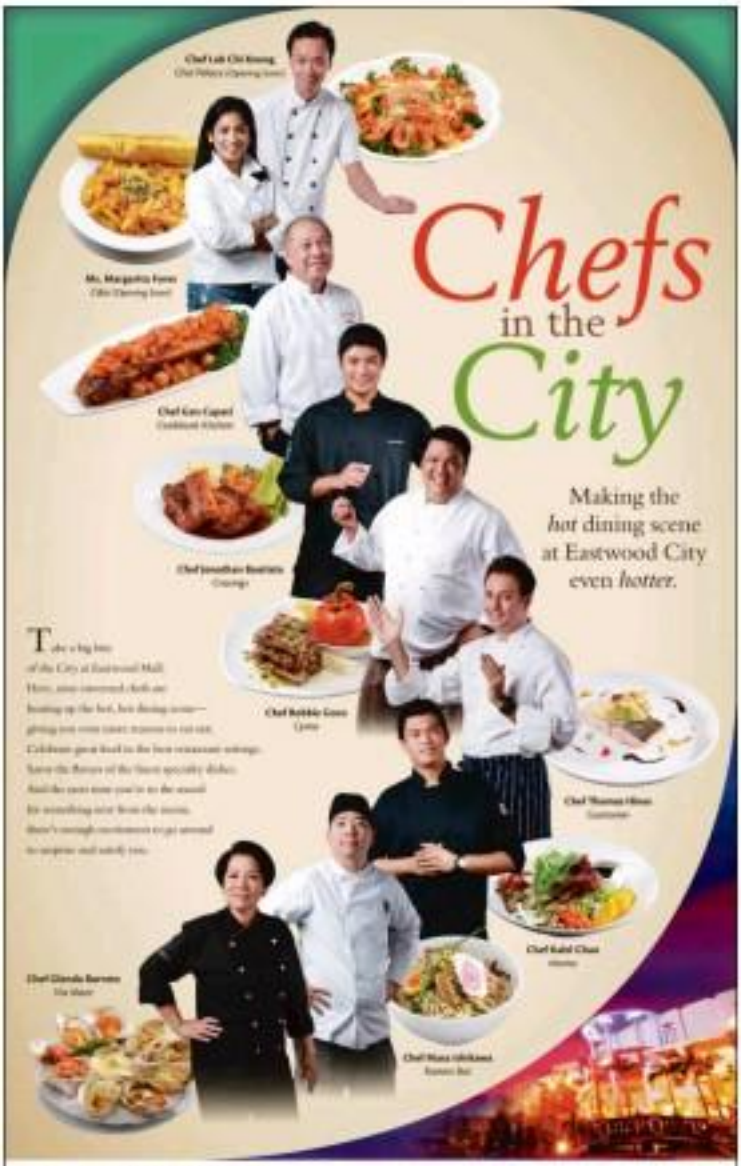
It almost looks like ballet, what with the barre and level of poise. However, some poses are reminiscent of yoga as well. Still, the dumbbells and rubber balls beside every workout station quickly confirm it is neither.

The special workout is called barre3, offered only in here: The Spa branches—Alabang, The Fort, Eastwood and the latest addition, Rockwell. To celebrate its opening, barre3 developer and founder Sadie Lincoln visited the country and even personally taught a special barre3 session on Nov. 17.

Barre3 carefully combines the "wisdom of yoga, the strength of Pilates and the efficiency of ballet barre work" into a fun-frugging 60-minute workout session.

EMMA SI

SADIE Lincoln



GARFIELD — By Jim Davis

A-LIPAN — By JESS ABRERA

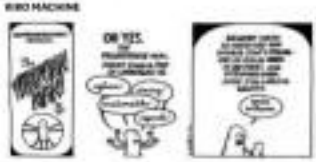
PUGAD BABOY — By Pol JUNIOR

DICK TRACY

LOVEBIRDS — By ELIANE "Ka Chinggay"

BABY BLUES — By JERRY SCOTT

KUBO MACHINE — By RANDY ABRERA

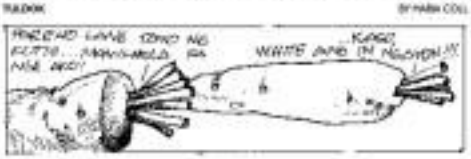


BEN — By DANIEL SHELTON

ANG DRAYBER — By ED BELLO & ED RAYOS

SHERMAN'S LAGOON — By JIM TOOMEY

TULDOK — By HABA COLL



HOROSCOPE

By FRANCIS DRAKE

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Guard your temper today; even a mole when talking to partners and close friends. Exercising restraint will indirectly avoid those extra pounds. Don't let this to point to be followed.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Don't get over hasty to a rush at work today. Others are entitled to their opinion. This is a good day to introduce concrete. People will accept you.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Romance and love are stressed today. People are at work with open ears. Taking care of the done is also challenging because little meltdowns are likely. Be patient.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) This is a good day to address personal and authority figures at home. You want to disagree on some things, and others accept it. Give your best.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) Don't try to make others agree with you today. People will resist your ideas. Everybody has their own interests about things. Be patient.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) You might feel stressed about money sometimes, or maybe stressed about how you earn your money. It's hard to find the middle ground today, especially when it comes to finances. Mind out.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Today the Moon is in your sign, which means you're stressed and moody. Keep an eye on what is in front. It is at odds with Pluto. Realize that you are under pressure.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Today you're intense, probing, about a recent issue. Perhaps you're finding it hard to ask. Don't make a big deal about anything. Others are in tense too.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Don't rate the last 2 romance challenges you're going through. You might need to calm down your love. Just be it up.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Definitely avoid arguments or discussions with authority figures — including parents and teachers. They could satisfy here today. People are not open to compromise. (Yikes!)

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Avoid discussions about politics, religion or racial issues. Similarly, matters related to publishing and the media could be sensitive! Do not make the outgoing point.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) This is not the day to get on your high horse if you're decided feel about how something is shared. Discussion about shared property will not go well.

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

Conceptis Sudoku — By Dave Green

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Fill the grid so that every column, every row and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. Tips and programs at www.sudoku.com.

Answer to previous puzzle

6	7	3	1	4	8	9	2	5
1	9	2	7	3	5	6	8	4
5	4	8	6	9	2	3	1	7
3	1	7	5	6	4	8	9	2
2	8	6	9	7	3	4	5	1
4	5	9	8	2	1	7	6	3
7	3	5	4	8	9	2	1	6
9	2	4	3	1	6	5	7	8
8	6	1	2	5	7	1	3	9

		1			4	5		7
	9		2		5			
5								8
	2				3		4	9
4	5		8				7	
6								1
			9		6		3	
8		4	3			7		

It's a ★★ puzzle

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

There's a barre–but this workout is not ballet

Pretzpage D4

Lincoln says no two sessions are alike. But they all consist of warming up, stretching and toning on the ballet barre; exercising/toning using bolstex balls, slightly smaller than a basketball, and 10 lbs dumbbells; to customized soundtracks.

It uses a combination of sitting, standing and laying down sessions that focus especially on the proper position of the hips, feet and shoulders. The movements are slow, precise and incremental. As the muscles are lengthened, exercised and strengthened developed.

Holistic benefits

Lincoln clarifies that barre2 was not designed for weight loss. However, its toning and strengthening aspects can contribute to that.

"We don't count calories here," she says.

Balance is primarily targeted in barre2.

"I like seeing my students come in a little hunched, a little unbalanced and leave feeling stronger and more balanced," says Lincoln.

"Its everything we do, we work on lengthening and strengthening the body. Chronic pain is usually associated with tight muscles that are not balanced," she says.

Lincoln believes in improvement in stance and posture is connected to social well-being.

"People who stand tall and proud walk easy and have a nice balance between flexibility and strength are likely to be more energetic and positive," she says.

For Lincoln, the ideal workout regimen is thrice a week, done consistently.

AROUND 45 minutes of stretching and warming up are done on the barre.

Designed for everyone

Lincoln worked on barre2 for 20 years, when she was still working for global health center 24 Hour Fitness. She based the program on her own life and experiences.

The three disciplines she incorporated in the workout are her personal favorites. The short hour required a front line supervisor as a busy working mother with only a limited amount of free time.

Lincoln specifically designed the class to be "open-level," where there are no separate classes for first-timers or the more practiced. Each pose or sequence can be altered by adjusting one's position, the placement of the ball and the weight of the dumbbells. Moreover, one can also take a short break throughout the session to catch his/her breath.

Individuals who can take the class range from teenagers and seniors. Lincoln admits even her 66-year old mother does it.

"I built this thinking about myself when I age. I don't want to resort to pursuing workouts when I get older. I always want to feel challenged every time," she says.

For those too busy to visit the studio, there's also a barre2 DVD, detailing an extensive 45-minute session. However, Lincoln advises that a live workout with an actual instructor is better. Not only does it have support, the very studio has been constructed specifically for barre2—from the mirrors that help improve posture and stance to the special soft cork-wood floors that's better for the body.

INVITED guests, media and barre2 trainers themselves try out the exercise with Lincoln.

The barre2 studio is only one of the many offerings of the "modern glamour" themed The Spa Boulevard. For more information, visit www.thespa.com.ph or www.barre2.com.ph.

Can one be hypnotized to commit a crime?

ALMOST ALL the books on hypnosis say one cannot be hypnotized to do something against his or her will. If anyone tries, the subject immediately goes out of his or her trance state, or another day.

But I'm not quite sure whether this is totally correct, because there are numerous cases reported where a person was asked to do something under hypnosis, which he or she would not ordinarily do in the awaking state.

For example, I have often heard of cases where a person (usually described as Indian-looking-would-go-up-to a cashier of a department store or a teller of a bank, talk to her for a few minutes, and then she would immediately hand over money to him. When the person has disappeared, she could not remember exactly what happened.

Understandably these poor employees get the blame and have to pay the company the money lost via their commission. (I believe they were hypnotized, but this can't be proven, and it will not stand up in court.

Can a normally modest woman be compelled under hypnosis to undress and stand completely naked before other people unknown to her? Again, books on hypnosis will say no. If she really is not used to it and it is against her will. But I have read of an experiment where a decent woman was hypnotized and was told she was alone in her bathroom and about to take a bath. She began undressing before a small group of observers and was stopped only when it was clearly evident she would completely undress.

In another experiment, a woman under hypnosis was given a real gun loaded with blanks and was told to shoot her mother. She pulled the trigger. Another hypnotized subject put what she was told was arsenic in a friend's food. The substance was really a harmless powder, but she didn't know that. So it seems it is not true that a person under hypnosis cannot be made to do something against his or her will.

In a famous 19th-century novel, "Trilby," by George du Maurier, a sinister character named Svengali with strange powers hypnotized Trilby, a beautiful young artist's model into doing everything he told her to do. When he died of heart attack in a fit of jealousy, Trilby was freed from her mental slavery until she saw an old photograph of Svengali and fell into a trance again. The novel had a tragic ending.

Sense, due to only fiction, and the name Svengali has become synonymous to anybody who gains control over the will of others for evil purposes. But can this happen in real life? Can a person, a woman, for example, be hypnotized to kill another against her will?

INNER AWARENESS

Jaime T. Licauco

Question of guilt

This was the very question faced by a French court in 1890 over the case of a 21-year-old middle-class girl named Gabrielle Bompard, who was accused of killing bailiff Toussaint-Augustin Gouffe under the direction of her lover, Michel Eyraud.

The motive was robbery. Gabrielle had been described as completely amoral, prone to vices of all sorts, and would do anything somebody told her to. She was also one exceptionally easy subject of hypnosis. She never took notice or the slightest provocation. Her family doctor, named Ingenieur, testified that, "it sufficed to stare at her for a few minutes and she fell into catalepsy."

In that state, "she gave no sign of pain when her dress a pin was stuck in her arm, obediently took a new position when told it was a delicious fruit and got tipsy when told that a glass of water was champagne."

When they were arrested separately, both were eager to incriminate each other. Eyraud wanted to ensure that Gabrielle took part in the crime willfully while she wanted to convince the jury that the blame solely belonged to Eyraud, because she had no control of what she did.

Two schools of thought

At that time, there were two dominant schools of thought concerning hypnosis. The Salpetriere School of Paris, under Dr. Charcot, believed hypnosis to be "an artificially induced nervous condition, loosely akin to (if not identical with) neurosis." It postulated it has only hysterics could be hypnotized. This school claimed there had never been a single crime committed under hypnosis.

An opposing school (the Nancy School), headed by Liebeault and Bernheim, said that in hypnosis, "the subject's critical faculties are bypassed so that a suggestion is received out automatically. Volition is weakened, and the hypnotized subject is at the mercy of the operator and carries out any gestures with the facility of a falling moon."

Bernheim was convinced that hypnotic crime was feasible.

Eyraud was executed in front of an enormous crowd on Feb. 3, 1891. Gabrielle Bompard eluded the guillotine, but was sentenced to 20 years in prison at hard labor, but only served only 13 years, after which she was freed.

Sensational case

In 1936, a sensational criminal case involving hypnosis stalked Germany. Here's the shocking story as related in the book "Adventures Forever," by Colin Wilson:

"A hypnotist named Franz Walter liked to pose as a doctor. One day, boarding a train to Heidelberg, he entered a carriage occupied by a young woman. Walter talked to her and discovered she was either wrong or a doctor about stomach pains. Walter sympathized, told her he was a doctor, and invited her to have coffee with him. She felt frightened and warned to refuse, but when Walter took her hand, she found she could not. She later recalled that 'it seemed to me as if I no longer had a will of my own.'

Walter then somehow hypnotized her without her consent. Later, when he wrote to her ordering her to come to him in another town, she left strangely giddy and immediately went to him. Under hypnosis, she was raped by Walter, who then ordered her to become a prostitute and to give him her earnings. When she later married, he hypnotized her into making several attempts on her husband's life. The husband eventually reported her behavior to the police, and a police doctor, Ludwig Mayer, recognized some of the symptoms of hypnotism. He managed to dehypnotize her and submit her memories of her ordeals, which Walter had ordered her to forget. Walter was tried, found guilty, and sentenced to 15 years in prison."

A modern example, indeed! A case of life-imitating art or the other way around! Whatever it is, hypnosis has its dangers, especially in the hands of an amateur or someone with a sinister motive.

Note: The non-Jesse Allred Development seminar will be held Dec. 4-5, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. at 8th Floor Prince Plaza 1 Cond., Legaspi St., Greenhills, Makati. Call 0917.957.3460 or 09.568.9987, e-mail jamestlicauco@yahoo.com. Visit www.jamespl.com.ph.

Hypnosis has its dangers, especially in the hands of an amateur or someone with a sinister motive

PAKEU Prexy and Fr. Jose Ramos

ATENEO de Manila University president Rev. Fr. Bienvenido Nebres (fourth from left) with Jaime Zobel de Ayala (center), Ateneo Art Gallery chairperson Ramon Lerma (second from left), Ateneo Cultural and Arts Committee chair Chiling Montinola (fourth from right), and 50th anniversary gala committee members Billy Lee, Marilena Pineda, Trevor Lee, Mita Valles, Chino Yao, Cathy Cojuangco and Trevi Pascual

ITALIAN Ambassador Luca Fornari and wife Silvana

Ateneo Art Gallery marks 50 years with new space, acquisitions, musical tribute to Fernando Zobel

FROM a session-sized class meeting suspended on May 19, 1960, in Bellarmine Hall, the Ateneo Art Gallery recently resurfaced a much bigger space—over 1,000 square meters—on the second level of the Rizal Library Special Collections Building.

Fernando Zobel de Ayala was the founding benefactor of the Ateneo Art Gallery. In the early days, Zobel donated his modernist paintings to the school, but it was not until the school could use it to reproduce important paintings, even supplementing them with his own funds to have these framed and displayed in the library. He also brought original artworks in his charge, most from his own collection.

The pieces eventually evolved into the original collection of the Ateneo Art Gallery. For his work, Zobel was the given Ateneo's first doctorate in the humanities, honoris causa, in 1982. The Ateneo Art Awards, launched seven years ago as the school's way of honoring Zobel's legacy, has become a leading barometer of contemporary Philippine art practice, media widely acknowledged as the country's most important contemporary art prize.

At the event, a sculpture donated to the Gallery by National Artist Arturo Luz, "Homage to Fernando Zobel," was also unveiled. Luz was represented by his wife Tessie Luz, himself a former student of Zobel.

In addition, an exhibition on the life and art of Luz Agamido, a close friend and associate of Zobel, was presented, along with the premiere performance of a musical composition by Ramon de Veyra called "In the Eye of Hiroleyne."

The composition, created in honor of the museum's 50th anniversary year, at Zobel's direction and chief curator Ramon Lerma put it, "marked by collective and experimentation, [as] de Veyra situates the Ateneo Art Gallery and its founder in the center of an unprecedented juncture in Philippine art history. His work selects, much like Zobel's painterly expressions, pauses, rhythms and musical nuances, creating a sense of direction and, indeed, a search for the extreme."

The Ateneo Art Gallery has also set up an art acquisitions fund that will help the gallery continue fulfilling its mission of collecting the most outstanding examples of modern and contemporary Philippine art.

In addition, it has established an endowment program that hopes to raise P10 million by the close of the school's 150th anniversary celebrations in August 2011. The returns from this seed fund are raised to enabling the museum to sustain its acquisitions program.

In a philanthropic gesture, Recently Rizal has purchased two works by National Artists and Zobel Aquilizan's "Mother Art Project: 100 Paintings" to the Ateneo for its permanent collection.

The Aquilizans are hosting Filipino contemporary visual artists who aspire an international critical expansion. They would have been shown in the Venice Biennale, and are currently featured at the Tate Liverpool.

KAREN and Ramon Lerma, Jaime Zobel and Bea Zobel de Ayala

METSY Hermosisima and Rosa Cabarrus

CHRISTINA Gonzalez, Trina Prieto-Valdes and Cielito Montinola

CECILE Lopez and Patricia Escaler

ROSE Hill, Micaela Cojuangco Jaworski, Lorna Lusuriaga, Didra Fernandez and granddaughter Lourdes Montinola, Ada Mahilangan and Belinda Ramolete

MAY Sy-Quia, Josephine Yao, Sandra and Gloria Yao

CAPITA Garcia, Irene Arcasitas, Modesto Pineda and Yael Bermudez

AMBASSADOR Luis de Wilson, Beside Harper, Ding Hontiveros and Marilen Prieto

PHILIPPINE Society of Medical Oncology president Dr. Dennis Rodrick B. Galor's Medical Center Digos breast and Medical Oncology Breast Section head Dr. Clara Soliman and Pfizer public policy and communications manager Lilet Pelaez-Luna

Lung cancer death rate exceeds all other cancers combined

IN LINE with the Global Lung Cancer Awareness Month, the Philippine Society of Medical Oncology in cooperation with the C-Network and Roche Philippines, launched a campaign to elevate awareness about the disease and present new developments in screenings and therapies for the disease.

Lung cancer remains the deadliest type of cancer globally, accounting for more deaths than the combined mortality rate for other types of cancer including breast, colon, kidney, liver, skin cancers and prostate.

Each year, 1.38 million people die as a result of the disease, equating to more than 3,000 deaths worldwide everyday, or two deaths per minute.

Five-year survival rate for lung cancer (or who very poor at only 15 percent, compared to breast cancer survival which is at around 89 percent.

Here in the Philippines, UltraCan statistics point out that despite the increase of breast cancer incidence, lung cancer kills 50 percent of those diagnosed (8,516 or 14.2 percent mortality among 13,943, or 17.4 percent incidence) of all those diagnosed with the disease, compared to 19 percent mortality among breast cancer patients (9,085 or 11.9 percent mortality among 11,514, or 9.1 percent incidence). Despite these alarming statistics, lung cancer is not so highlighted in most media as much as other cancer types.

Lung cancer cases has a compromise in most cases, resulting in the majority of cases being diagnosed at an advanced and sometimes incurable stage. However, despite symptoms being non-specific, there are now diagnostics a doctor may perform who would make it possible to have an early diagnosis of the disease.

Early diagnosis

"Early diagnosis and treatment requires timely presentation to the doctor. In order to achieve this, awareness needs to be raised significantly through government and healthcare professionals so that people at risk of developing non-small cell lung cancer. Increased coverage in media can help to create awareness and improve the situation," quoted Dr. Dennis Ramon M. Bethel, PSMO President.

"Lung cancer treatment may be individualized. Molecular markers, particularly in non-small cell lung cancer, are increasingly used to tailor or personalize treatment, and these are among the new advances that show promise in prolonging progression-free and overall survival even among those with advanced disease," explains Dr. Bethel.

"Targeted therapies may address two stages of lung cancer. In a clinical study presented at the 35th Congress of the European Society for Medical Oncology in Milan, Italy last October 2010, patients with advanced lung cancer whose tumors carry EGFR-activating mutations received first-line treatment with erlotinib and had nearly tripled progression-free survival compared to a standard chemotherapy combination."

"Cancer is something that everyone seems to prevent, and in lung cancer, aggressive nonsmoking campaigns need everyone's support. Awareness is really important. Taking heed of the alarming mortality rate of lung cancer here in the Philippines as well as globally. We believe that talking about smoking says that everyone is armed with more and more information, it is big step in empowering everyone to take a hand in lowering both the incidence and number of deaths," concludes Dr. Bethel.

ENTERTAINMENT

Editor Dennis G. Velarde

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Pot advocate caught with the stuff

HOUSTON, TEXAS—A United States Border Patrol spokesperson says legendary country singer and marijuana advocate Willie Nelson was charged with pot possession after six ounces of the substance was found aboard his tour bus in Texas. The singer was held briefly and posted a $2,500 bond before being released. Patrol spokesperson Bill Brooks says an officer at a checkpoint smelled pot when the bus door was opened and a search turned up marijuana. AP

AT HIS recent album launch at Hard Rock Cafe, jazz singer Arthur Manansing serenades Jinkee Pacquiao to join on a pop tune.

SAMPAGUITA, at left with daughter Jackie Rocktress, shows the Pinay rock queen in her prime in the 1970s.

MUSIC NEWS

Sampaguita inspired to record again

By Pocholo Concepcion

"I THE SONGS need to have meaning," says Pinoy rock queen Sampaguita, on the prospect of her writing new material for another shot at recording an album.

The gregarious mother of three children, still full of wit and energy, confesses feeling anxious as she prepares to go onstage again in the concert "Gigil, The Legends of Pinoy Folk Rock" on Dec. 3 at the Araneta Coliseum.

The gig, which she describes as a "class reunion," also features the Juan dela Cruz Band, Lolita Carbon, Florante, Heber Bartolome, plus two from a younger batch of fellow, Gary Granada and Noel Cabangon.

While hanging out and talking shop with cohorts Arnold Adlawan at her farm in Tagaytay, Sam popular actress being inspired enough to consider making songs again.

"But I want songs that have something to say," she tells the Inquirer while playing her collaborative counterpoint with Tony Perez, "Tito," on her acoustic guitar.

After going through a number of relationships, the former Sony Music star has fully settled down and lives with Miguel Romero and their daughter Jasmin, 23, in BF Homes Parañaque.

"Now Jasmin wants us to be singers too," says Sampaguita. "What can I do, well, I can guide her."

Mother and daughter look so much alike and smile like they've seen the future.

WORLD-RENOWNED opera singer Rachel Gendino

"This is such a wonderful surprise," says jazz singer Arthur Manansing as she launch of his new album, "My Kind of Christmas is Yes," at Hard Rock Cafe Makati, recently.

The lady performer was expressing delight at the number of people including Aiken Pacquiao, with swin sister Jinkee) who turned up to watch him sing solo a quartet composed of Antoinette Taus Domalan, Jessie Jess Galang, drummer Cesar Cruz and second keyboardist Joey "Whistler" Canal.

The world-class caliber of the performance is something to crow about. Manansing has, through the years, perfected his tone and phrasing and just about everything one needs to form as a jazz vocalist.

Many an audio DJ have known even got up onstage to proclaim Manansing as "Asia's King of World Jazz."

"It's equally challenging," says internationally renowned Filipino opera singer Rachel Gendino, when asked if she finds it difficult to perform for her countrymen, aside from her audience overseas.

Gendino performed a few numbers with the University of Sto. Tomas Singers during the lighting of the 30-foot tall Christmas tree at the SM Mall of Asia, recently.

Among many Gendino Yuletide tunes, Gendino cannot an obscure one, "The Light of a Million Mornings," as her personal favorite. "It was originally sung by the American gospel singer Sandy Patti from the Christmas album 'Everlasting Light,'" says Gendino. "The song has been an inspiration to me and it has never failed to move my audience."

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Bamboo breaks out of the norm

By Manny Espinola
Cover Boyz

Bamboo
"Tomorrow Becomes Yesterday"
(Warner with extra touch and INFO; Polyfunk Records)

Stripped of the metal of Mr. Big, the bare rap and ponderous bridges, previous Bamboo hits like "Huling Jodi" and new "Kahapon" in this collection harken back to a songwriting past that marked him in the romance of post-punk innocent morality and primary pop resurgence in the days of Parokya ni Edgar.

This repackaged edition of Bamboo's 2008 CD "Tomorrow Becomes Yesterday" finds the band pulling back a little, toning the possible energy a notch down and going out on limited feel to explorer a bit of funk, a dose of jazz, a pedal of reggae, even a streak of the blues.

KYLE Minogue

One can say it's about time, or not a moment too soon, but others are concerned that Bamboo has not yet buckled to the kind of monetized technology that has since gobbled up the rest of the world...hello metrobase!

B-n-B

"Built Pinnatic: The Adventures of Bobby Bay", Atlantis Records

To those repelled by hip hop because of its excessive profanity, B-n-B invites you to see for yourself how he the genre has come. His efforts is refreshingly free of the misogyny, misanthropy, homophobia, vulgarity and an overarching affinity with violence that mastered marks of rap's lowest.

B-n-B's musical style showcases "mom-approved"...somewhat cool guarded by any "traditional" —approaches to intermediate with women, picking order catch make power, ambition and success, and personal and artistic identity.

Experimental and sophisticated by it doesn't friends in the business that is shade, yes, Eminem talked a more mature one) and Lupe K, the first three singles about illustrates B-n-B's auditory vision of a populist pop pilgrimage from the studio to the dance floor to MTV and YouTube and back.

"Pantin' on You," the breakout single plucked on heavy rotation on MTV features Bruno Mars, the wit who rewrote Travie Mc

BAMBOO

Cay's "Billionaire," and a copy-dosed by The Stereotypists, the production coolly bolstered Pop shakes and Justin Bieber.

B-n-B's lyrics, as often contextentially crude and malignant to rap, are characteristically imaginative and civilized. Give this CD a listen and you will find that Mr. Jones is demonstrably cool. It's a guaranteed, fun-filled, free-flumble up-tempted trip.

Kylie Minogue
"Aphrodite", Parlophone

In her signature hit "Can't Get You Out of My Head" (2001), Australian pop singer Kylie Minogue pitched dance and sexuality and gained worldwide fame. A decade and a life history later, she celebrates all in "Aphrodite"—an all-dance, no-ballad, all-sexy 11-track club album dedicated to the titular goddess of love and beauty and erotic energy.

All throughout the album Minogue sticks to her tried and true formula of dance as a prelude and invitation of sex and, if need be, abstract admission for sex indeed. On track 6, "Better Than Today" she asks, "What's the point in living if you don't want to dance?"

REVIEW

Rachel Alejandro never wanted marriage–till now

AFTER being through hell and back in the name of love, **Rachel Alejandro** is finally settling down with her fiancé, Carlos Santamaria. He is a journalist with the ABS Spanish newswire service in Bangkok.

The bride-to-be is busy getting inspired for her play "Kasada," to be held on Dec. 3-5 at 8 p.m. at the Carlos P. Romulo Auditorium, NDC Pasa Makati.

I cornered Rachel about her wedding plans. Miss Sexy Doll will soon turn into Mrs. Sexy Espinosa.

So how did Carlos propose? She said they mutually decided to get married over a couple of bottles of wine in Germany.

It will be a beach wedding on April 9, but they're still looking for a venue. Honeymoon will be in the Maldives.

I asked her what's the best thing she has learned from Carlos so far. "He has shown me that I can love someone so much that I would want to have a family," said Rachel. "I never wanted children, till now."

'Cure' to Maui's heart

Hiral Taylor is exclusively dating a gorgeous doctor who is her childhood friend.

"Ang set up ni guava ng feeling," she gushes. "Because we know each other so well. Gusto na nila as husband/wife relationships."

Hopefully Doc will find the permanent cure for old wounds in Maui's overworked heart.

Shameless plug

I'm no stage mother, but I'm soo proud Mama Sa please allow me to plug my son JC Mendoza's movie, "SUDE (Hindi, Ito at si Ako)," top billed by Julia Clarete.

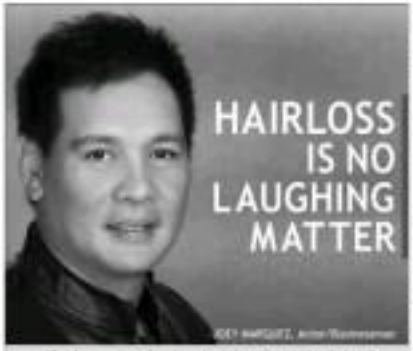
It's a digital, student piece (spanning Dec. 3) directed by Neal Tan, with story and screenplay by Pompee Gallegos.

The film's lead character, Gil Buenaventura (played by Gomez), is a filmmaker hired by the Department of Health to do a documentary for them HIV/AIDS awareness campaign.

His diary focuses on Heidy (Ms. Isabel Laguio), a plush housewife who contracted the virus from her philandering husband, an overseas Filipino worker; Ivy Chia Calzado), a young call center agent who discovers she is HIV-positive when she tries to apply for work abroad; and Yasmin (Mendoza), a young, cheerful guy and a stand-up comedian who engages in dishonest sexual pleasures.

For feedback, e-mail: easierlightabs@gmail.com

DOLLY WOCO
Daily Anne Carrington



Jovit takes 2 top OPM slots

THE TOP-SELLING albums in the country for the week Nov 15-21, based on Odyssey Music & Video's nationwide sales reports:

Overall

1) Jovit Baldivino, "Speak Now Unplugged," MCA Music; 2) Jovit Baldivino, "If I'm Anything For Love," Star Records; 3) Mariah Carey, "Merry Christmas II You," MCA Music; 4) Jovit Baldivino, "Indefinitely," Star Records; 5) Various Artists, "The Magic Of Gary Valenciano," Warner Music; 6) Sarina Antoni, "Signing Nobody's Magnificent," Star Records; 7) Various Artists, "Non-Stop Pilipino Christmas Medley: Among Ball," Alfil Music; 8) Carol Banawa, "My Music, My Life," Star Records; 9) Lea Salonga, "Now Songs," Sony Music; 10) Andrea Bocelli, "My Christmas," MCA Music

OPM

1) Jovit Baldivino, "I'd Do Anything for Love," Star Records; 2) Jovit Baldivino, "Indefinitely," Star Records; 3) Various Artists, "Signing Nobody Magnificent," Star Records; 4) Sarina Antoni, "Non-Stop Pilipino Christmas Medley: Among Ball," Alfil Music; 5) Carol Banawa, "My Music, My Life," Star Records; 6) Lea Salonga, "Now Songs," Sony Music; 7) Jose Mari Chan, "Christmas In Our Hearts," Universal Records; 8) Shawie Dee, "Shawie's Org," Viva Records; 9) Various Artists, "Christmas Medley: Dawo Makers," Ignatius Music; 10) Noel Cabangon, "Pyaho," Universal Records

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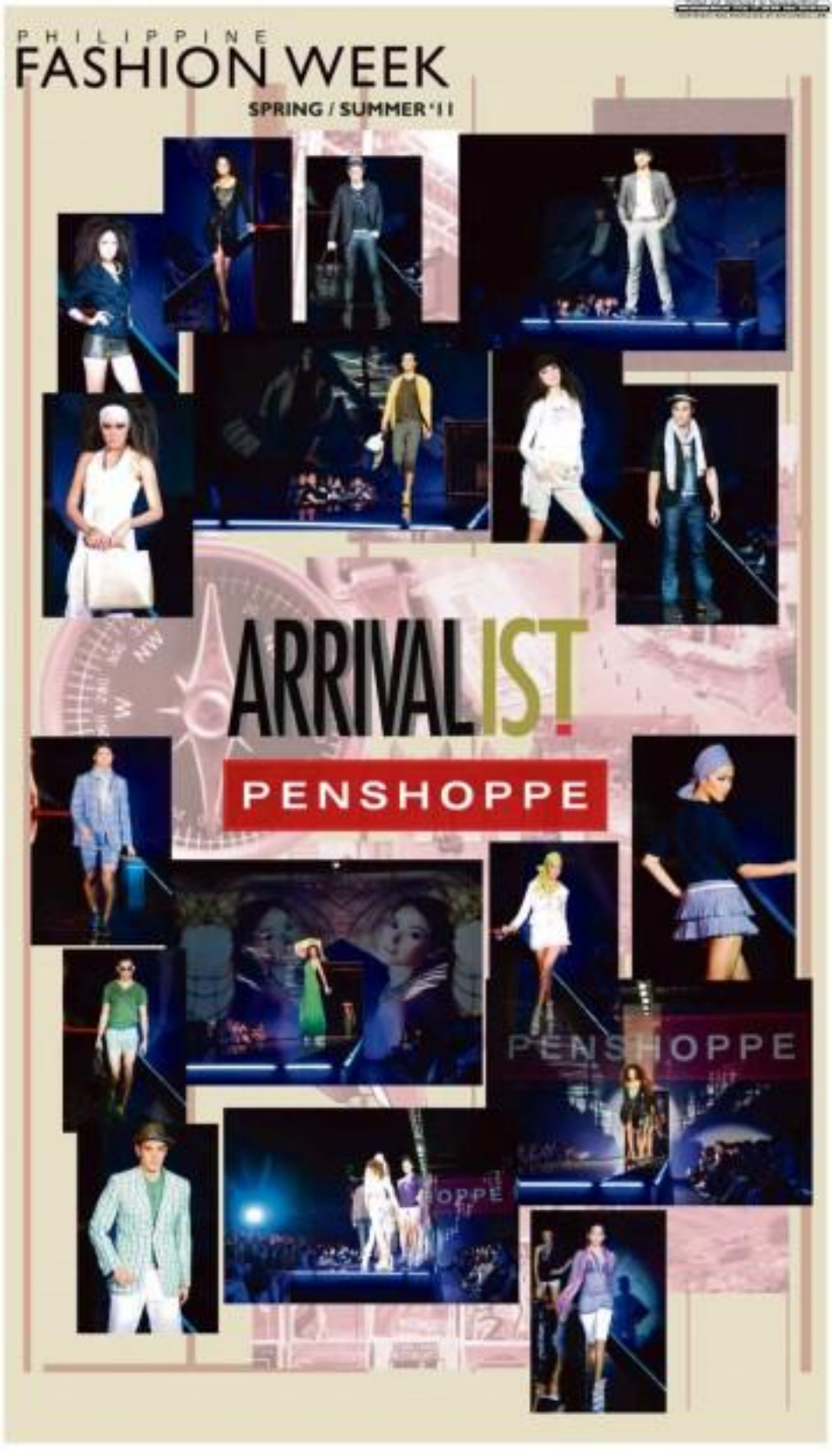

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KIDDIE HOLIDAY FASHION MUST-HAVES FROM SM

Christmas is the time when kids prepare their wish list for Santa. And it's also a good idea to prepare a list of holiday looks that will make them portrait pretty in any family gathering.
SM Kids leads the way by sharing with us four must-haves from its Fairy Tale collection: the whimsical skirt, lovely lace, and romantic floral dresses for girls; and preppy inspired clothes for dapper young boys.
Perfect for happily ever after fun, the SM Kids Fairytale Christmas collection is available at the Children's Wear Department of all SM stores.

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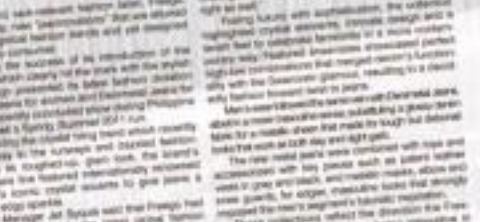
Crystal Jeans Collection Shines at Philippine Fashion Week

Up-to-date and new-relevant fashion label, Freego, unveiled its hip, new "denimotions" that are attuned with current global fashion trends and yet designed for the Filipina womanhood.

Following the success of its introduction of the "leggings", which clearly hit the mark with the stylish crowd, Freego presented its latest fashion obsession, the Crystal Jeans for women and Distressed Jeans for men at its recently concluded show during Philippine Fashion Week's Spring Summer 2011 run.

Reinventing the classic denim trend which recently made its way to the runways and stunned fashion-philes with its roughed-up, grain look, the brand's Crystal Jeans line featured internationally acclaimed Swarovski's iconic crystal accents to give jeans a subtle yet edgy sparkle.

Brand Manager Jet Sycuia said that Freego had always been attuned to the latest global fashion trends and stressed that they still make sure that each piece bears Freego's signature marks style. It also continue, "We actively invest a lot in research-ing on these fashion directions, and apply whatever we have learned to come up with clothes that are accessible for the local market – and that means



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